

WE SELECT
THE BEST BUYS OF THE SEASON
SHOOT! 18p

28th APRIL, 1979

**WEST GERMANY'S
GREATEST
GOALSCORER
GERD MÜLLER
IN FLORIDA WITH
HIS NEW CLUB**

Arsenal's Frank Stapleton outjumps Paul Jones of Bolton Wanderers at Highbury.

SHOOT selects some of the BEST BUYS

THIS is the favourite time of the season for people to start playing games — picking their favourite teams, tipping who's going to go up and down, arguing about the players of the season and so on.

SHOOT thought it might be fun to weigh up some of the season's transfers and decide who had been the good and bad buys. We've not included players bought and sold on the transfer deadline date of March 29th because it would be unfair to judge them on just a handful of games.

What we've done is try to find players in similar positions and involved in similar deals — without pulling punches we come to a verdict every time and agree with us or not we think it's an interesting exercise. Try it yourselves.

Let's start with two goalkeepers who made moves during the season in an attempt to better themselves — JIM STEWART who left his native Scotland and Kilmarnock for English football with Middlesbrough, and TERRY GENNOE who was an unknown with Halifax Town last season, but recently made his Wembley debut for Southampton in the League Cup Final.

Stewart, it would appear, is like many Scottish goalkeepers. He flatters to deceive. After stringing together some useful performances he seems to have lost confidence and recently gave way in the first team to Jim Platt.

By comparison Gennoe has done far better than expected. He was third choice at The Dell when he started. Lawrie McMenemy saw Gennoe concede five goals in a match and still made a bid for the Halifax 'keeper, convinced he could make the grade, and he's been proved right.

He starred at Anfield when he might well have "frozen" in front of The Kop, and turned in a succession of highly competent displays, making his £40,000 fee look chicken-feed at the side of Boro's £100,000 for Stewart.

VERDICT: Gennoe wins hands down.

On to the full-backs and another Southampton signing, IVAN GOLAC, against yet another of the foreign imports, Birmingham's ALBERTO TARANTINI.

In a sense this is a battle of Europe against South America. On the one hand a man who has played in a World Cup winning side, on the other a player who was totally unknown to British audiences when the present campaign began.

As so often happens on these occasions we feel it's the lesser known light who has come more to the fore.

Golac has been outstanding in Southampton's bid for honours this season.

He has adapted remarkably well to the English game, is sharp in the



Liverpool paid £300,000 for Alan Kennedy (left) from Newcastle United. Paul Hart (above) in typical action for Leeds United. Two successes — Ivan Golac (right, number two), of Southampton, facing Ipswich's Arnold Muhren.



tackle, distributes the ball with equal dexterity and has become a vital part of Lawrie McMenemy's team building.

The same cannot be said of Tarantini. While hardly blaming him for Birmingham's demise — and he has obviously suffered from playing in a side almost totally lacking in confidence — Alberto has rarely done enough to suggest he will play a major role in Birmingham's future, but has improved of late.

Whether or not life in the Second Division will be acceptable to him after the glory of Argentina remains to be seen.

VERDICT: Yugoslavia's Golac is a knock-out.

A couple of seasons ago COLIN TODD would have been regarded as a permanent fixture in the England side, but somehow his form deteriorated when least expected and perhaps it was for everybody's good when he moved from Derby to Everton this season for £330,000.

Certainly Everton know they've made a fine acquisition and without quite reaching previous heights Todd has proved a steady influence in the Everton defence. His maturity and ability to calm a side has been as influential as ever.

Liverpool were looking for other qualities in a defender when they signed ALAN KENNEDY from Newcastle United. After Alec Lindsay and Joey Jones, the Anfield club decided it needed another left sided player, no doubt bearing in mind the fact that Emyln Hughes can't go on for ever.

They scoured the country and obviously felt Kennedy was the best available. He didn't start quite as brightly as Bob Paisley would

have hoped, but then settling into a team as accomplished and even awe-inspiring as Liverpool's can be anything but easy.

After coming back into the side and playing well Kennedy was unluckily injured and has found himself sitting it out while Hughes continues his trophy-hunting career.

VERDICT: Kennedy is young enough and good enough. The better buy in the long term.

The two centre-backs we chose were Tottenham's JOHN LACY, who is also featured on page 14, and Leeds United's PAUL HART.

Hart moved to Elland Road towards the end of last season but he's still new enough to regular First Division football for this to be an opportune time to assess his form alongside that of Lacy, who was a quiet £200,000 addition to the White Hart Lane staff in a summer best remembered for the acquisition of the Argentinians Ardiles and Villa.

After the shakiest of starts, in which he conceded two own-goals in his first three matches, Hart has progressed considerably and is even considered a potential England centre-half in some quarters.

It was a huge step from Stockport and Blackpool to Leeds, but Hart is now playing with confidence, scoring goals as a bonus to his defensive responsibilities and has succeeded Gordon McQueen better than expected.

As for Lacy he struggled like so many of those around him as Spurs slid from one disaster to another at the start of the season, and has grown a little as results have improved.

For such a tall man he is discon-

certingly beaten more times than he should be in the air, however, and has been indebted to Steve Perryman's ever important presence alongside him more times than he cares to remember.

VERDICT: Hart just wins on points.

Two young players with aspirations of playing for England — hopefully in the next World Cup — form the basis of an argument over the sweeper role.

GLENN ROEDER created a great impression with his displays in Orient's run to the F.A. Cup Semi-Finals last year — and unfortunately he hasn't been able to live up to that reputation with Queens Park Rangers.

Much of that is not his own fault. For much of the season Steve Burtenshaw has left Glenn in the Football Combination side, so he has hardly been in the position to enhance his reputation.

In recent weeks he has found a place in a struggling side and has acquitted himself relatively well, though it looks as if his move might still misfire with Rangers taking him back into Second Division life from which he was trying to escape.

As for PAUL FUTCHER it was generally assumed his move from Luton Town to Manchester City would elevate him to a superstar, a possible England senior place and certainly a greater share of the limelight.

Sadly, exactly the reverse has happened. With City's own dismal failings Paul has been confronted with a situation far beyond him. His own form has suffered and has been so unconvincing he has never been able to establish himself even in a season when the opportunity was ripe.

OF THE SEASON



Paul has enough conviction in his own ability to make a comeback, but without doubt the 1978-79 season will be one he wishes to forget. A complete write-off.

VERDICT: Roeder by default.

In the midfield department we couldn't resist analysing the impact made in his first season by OSVALDO ARDILES for Spurs, which is probably unfair to his opponent in our own game KAZIMIERZ DEYNA of Manchester

City.

Little Ardiles has won over thousands of uncommitted fans with some outstanding performances in an otherwise ordinary side at Spurs. He's brought glamour and excitement to the English game.

Deyna has had a very trying introduction to English football. Like Futch he has hardly benefited from having to try and slot into a side whose confidence was totally eroded by a sequence of disastrous results.

VERDICT: No contest — Ardiles by a walkover.

At this time last season you wouldn't have bet money on Tottenham Hotspur allowing NEIL McNAB to leave and Glenn Hoddle become unsettled at White Hart Lane, but the arrival of Ardiles meant Keith Burkinshaw had to reshape his midfield — so McNab moved on to Bolton in exchange for £250,000. The little Scot from Morton has undoubted ability but he has yet to bring it to bear at Burnden Park and recently gave way in the side to local boy Brian Smith. Hardly a season to remember for the youngster.

Ipswich Town cast their net abroad in seeking to strengthen the midfield and it has to be said ARNOLD MUHREN has proved one of the season's shrewdest buys.

The Dutchman has as much finesse in his left boot as most players have in all their faculties put together.

VERDICT: It pays to go Dutch.

Spurs' talented Argentinian Osvaldo Ardiles (left). Fulham's Peter Marinello (centre). John Hawley (right) arrived at Leeds United via Hull City.



Few wingers have moved this season, although there seem to be more around these days. Two who did return to familiar parts of their past, however, were LEIGHTON JAMES and PETER MARINELLO.

The Welshman made his reputation at Burnley, enhanced it for a time at Derby, let his halo slip at Queens Park Rangers, and is now trying to pick up the pieces again back at Turf Moor.

We're afraid Leighton does not convince us. Too often these days he seems to get involved in unsavoury incidents on the field, rather than by gaining headlines through his performance.

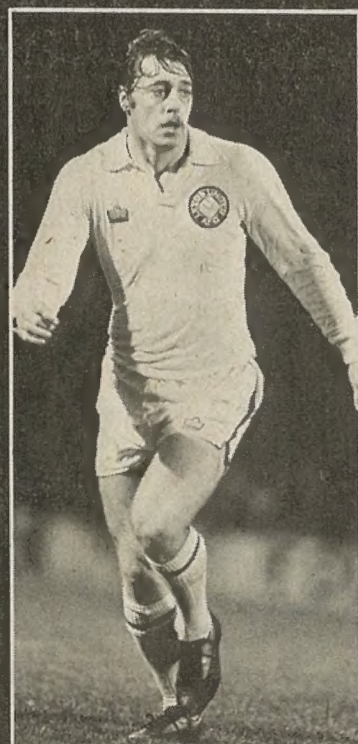
The return to London after ten years back in his native Scotland by Peter Marinello has been one of the fairy stories of the season.

His highly-publicised affairs with Arsenal and Portsmouth, which did not work out too well, have still failed to dim the fascination which surrounds this slight young man, and Fulham had the courage to believe he could still do a job for them after all this time.

Without earning rave notices he has still helped in keeping the club in the forefront of the Second Division promotion race, and has repaid that courage by showing he does have a place in the English game with much to offer.

VERDICT: We go for Marinello.

It didn't make too many headlines when the Leeds United manager at the time, Jimmy Armfield, decided to invest £70,000 in striker



JOHN HAWLEY from Hull City 12 months ago.

Although he had once scored the most spectacular goal of the season on Yorkshire Television, Hawley was hardly a prolific scorer in his days at Boothferry Park, but Armfield spotted sufficient potential to know he was capable of doing well in a better side.

That fact has been proved to the limit and as Leeds's most consistent goalscorer this season Hawley has proved a better-than-expected buy, and certainly one of the bargains of the season.

Birmingham City on the other hand were entitled to expect a crop of goals from ALAN BUCKLEY even though most of his goalscoring deeds have been achieved in the Third Division with Walsall.

After an early unsuccessful stint with Nottingham Forest, Buckley has built a reputation that suggests he could score goals at any level, but so far Jim Smith's faith in taking Buckley back to First Division life has been unrewarded.

VERDICT: Hawley can hardly be beaten when it comes to value for money.

Every club wants a reliable goalscorer and two London Second Division clubs who felt they needed more firepower went for experienced strikers at the start of the season.

Charlton Athletic didn't need too much reminding about the capabilities of DEREK HALES, who netted 73 League goals in 126 appearances for The Valley club before trying his luck with first Derby County and then West Ham.

Life didn't exactly work out for him after those two moves but Charlton felt Derek might rediscover his old flair on familiar stamping ground as so often happens.

It hasn't really worked out like that, though to be fair he has had some nasty injuries, and the ill-advised punch-up with Mike Flanagan further disrupted his season.

Fulham pinned their hopes on the giant frame of CHRIS GUTHRIE, whose wanderings had taken him to Newcastle, Southend, Sheffield United, and Swindon before Craven Cottage became his resting place.

Guthrie quickly justified his £70,000 transfer tag with some sterling performances and Bobby Campbell is well pleased with the outlay on a striker who will always score goals because of his immense power in the air and robust approach to the game.

VERDICT: Hales can still come good again but Guthrie edges this one.

● Read about some of this season's Deadline Day Deals on page 38.

The two most crucial periods in a season are usually regarded as Christmas and Easter. That is the time when many games are played in a short space of time. This term has been particularly difficult because of the bad weather. Here, SHOOT takes a look at some of the clubs currently battling for promotion from their respective Divisions . . .



GOING UP?



Watford's Ross Jenkins (number nine) climbs above a Gillingham defender but heads just wide. The Hornets won this Third Division game 2-0.





Dave Howitt (left, third from right) scores for Fourth Division Aldershot against Doncaster. Kevin Moore (right, stripes) is unlucky with this effort for Grimsby v. Portsmouth.



Brighton's Peter Ward (above, stripes) is robbed of the ball by a Fulham defender during the Second Division clash at the Goldstone Ground. Dave Swindlehurst (below, light strip) narrowly misses for Crystal Palace in their 1-1 draw with fellow promotion hopefuls Stoke at Selhurst Park. Sunderland (stripes), who have aspirations of First Division football next season, in action against Newcastle.



LIVERPOOL players seem to make a habit of breaking records. The latest to do so is our captain Emlyn Hughes, whose testimonial year is certain to realise £100,000 for him, thus establishing a British record.

The six-figure sum is higher than those amounts raised for Bobby Charlton and Bobby Moore, which were previously regarded as exceptional.

And nearly twice as much for any other Liverpool player.

Full marks to his organising committee, who have worked hard and inventively to ensure Emlyn receives a well-deserved nest egg.

In the past the testimonial game itself has contributed the major part of the revenue, but nowadays over half is likely to come from other sources.

Emlyn's match, staged at Anfield on Tuesday, March 27th, against our great rivals, Borussia Monchengladbach of West Germany, pulled in 25,290 fans — compared with a full house of around 54,000 (with 5,000 locked out) for the testimonial of Roger Hunt several years ago.

Roger was one of the men who helped England win the World Cup in 1966 at Wembley, and was worshipped by the Kop for his tremendous goalscoring ability and all-action style.

The opposition on his big night was an All-Star Eleven, containing many of his England team-mates.

Then admission prices were 50p standing and £1 for a seat. Now, they are exactly double.

I don't know the gate receipts for Roger's game, but Emlyn's amounted to £39,500.

Invariably, such games are played in a fairly light-hearted manner, with defenders standing off and allowing forwards to entertain the paying customers with regular shots at goal. High scores, like 6-6, are not uncommon as players revel in a free-and-easy atmosphere.

But some clubs still insist on taking them seriously. Celtic, for instance, particularly under Jock Stein's management, played them like League games.

Celtic were invited to appear in Ron Yeats' testimonial — for some reason I can't recall I didn't play — and playing with the skill, dedication and hardness that had brought them the European Cup in 1967, beat Liverpool by four nil. We had two players taken off injured, a rare happening on such an occasion.

I believe Jock Stein's comment was: "We don't play friendlies at Celtic."

We certainly kept this in mind when we were invited to provide the opposition for the Parkhead side in a testimonial for the Big Fella up in Glasgow before the start of this season, before a crowd of 63,000.

This time we were mentally prepared for a competitive match and, playing with our usual style ran our winners by 3-2.

Celtic "old boy" Kenny Dalglish was playing for us, which obviously boosted the gate.

Jock Stein realised the princely sum of £80,000, but donated the programme proceeds of around £20,000 to the United Nations Fund

'Borussia Monchengladbach provided the opposition in Emlyn's testimonial'

for Children. A generous gesture.

Borussia refused to treat Emlyn's game as an "exhibition match" and played it like a European tie, with no concessions to providing a spectacle.

I suppose it was to be expected. They wanted to make up for having lost the European Cup Final to us in 1977, and being knocked-out in last season's European Cup at the Semi-Final stage.

On their previous visit to Anfield we had well-beaten them, by three goals to nil.

We were all very conscious that in four days' time we were due to play Manchester United in an F.A. Cup Semi-Final at Old Trafford, and no one wanted to risk injury in a meaningless game that would endanger our chance of reaching Wembley.

In fact, we didn't even kick-off at full-strength, being without our star

goalscorer Kenny Dalglish; and myself, Ray Kennedy and Phil Thompson came off at half-time, with Dave Johnson replaced part-way through the second-half, to provide reserves with first team experience.

It was in the first-half, though, the West Germans scored the night's only goal. The ball was played over the top of our defence to a player who ran on to it before cutting it back to Edward Lienen, who from ten yards, drove it cleanly into a corner of the net.

The disappointing game raised doubts about the advisability of inviting a foreign side — even one as attractive on paper as Borussia — over for a testimonial. The gate was only about 5,000 more than for our two previous games — for Ian Callaghan and Chris Lawler — when All-Star teams appeared, and that additional revenue was probably wiped out by the fee of between five and ten thousand pounds.

I recall the tragic case of Phil Beal, a Spurs long-server, who actually lost money when he brought over Bayern Munich at a cost of £12,500 for his testimonial at White Hart Lane.

Since Emlyn joined Liverpool from Blackpool in 1967 for £65,000, he has played over 600 games and helped the club to a string of major honours, including two European Cups.

It was time for the people of the city to pay tribute to him by supporting the activities arranged by his committee — and the response has been marvellous.

They have attended all sorts of



'TESTIMONIALS

RAY
CLEMENCE
talking soccer



functions in his honour, such as all-male sportsmen's nights, and dinner dances; invited him to present prizes, and purchased raffle tickets for autographed footballs, and made various other donations.

They donated towards a superb souvenir brochure, which contained articles from admirers amongst sportswriters and other sportsmen.

It's customary at Liverpool to award a testimonial to a player who has given the club good service for ten years.

The system has its critics, but I think it's only right and proper a player should be rewarded for remaining loyal to the club, and foregoing chances of reaping five per cent from any transfer fee.

What happens is a committee is set up to organise things for the player. For tax reasons he is not allowed to participate, except to appear in the events arranged by this special circle of friends and well-wishers.

The big dilemma is a publicity campaign has to be mounted in order to ensure maximum impact, but the more money raised the greater the interest shown by the men from the Inland Revenue.

It's unfortunate players with lower Division clubs stand very little chance of gaining handsome rewards from this system. Perhaps some other arrangement should be tried to ensure they leave the game with enough money to enable them to start a business or tide them over until they become established in a new job or career.

The next player at Liverpool in



line for a testimonial is me. Already my committee has been formed and are rattling their brains to devise money raising schemes.

Of course, it will be difficult to match the response Emlyn's received. He is hard to follow having held the captaincy of both club and country. But I receive my fair share of support from the Anfield faithfuls and they're optimistic they can do me proud.

One of the ideas they've come up with is the offer of a limited number of glass goblets engraved with my name and details of my career. I'd like one myself.

So apart from a heavy programme of matches for Liverpool and England, I'm going to be extra busy off the field with personal appearances and the like.

Right now the main priority is to help keep Liverpool on course for the League Championship.

This Saturday we play Bristol City at Anfield. Last year they took a point off us at our place, in a 1-1 draw, and beat us 1-0 at Ashton Gate last December with a mis-hit Joe Royle goal.

Playing against us then was Peter Cormack, the only ex-Liverpool player with a First Division club. Speaking to him after the game, he told me how much he loves the



Mersey area and of his intention to move back there when his playing career ends.

I have tremendous respect for Alan Dicks, their manager, now the longest-server in that job in the First Division. It's to his board's credit he's been allowed the time to consolidate Bristol City in the First Division after a period when they looked almost certain to drop back into the Second.

It shows how much progress the club have made since being prom-

'Peter Cormack loves the Mersey area'

oted in 1975-76 that at one stage this season they were pushing hard to finish high enough to qualify for a place in the U.E.F.A. Cup competition next season.

Unhappily, a bad patch seems to have squashed that dream for them.

City will come primarily interested in again getting a point. They'll sit back, attempt to frustrate us, and go for goal whenever there's a chance to break.

And with the likes of Norman Hunter, still a great competitor, they have the players capable of carrying out that policy.

There's a lot of character and skill in the side's make-up, and they all work hard for each other.

Liverpool are set for one of our hardest games of the season, against a side we won't underestimate.

Till next week —

Ray Clemence

- A GOOD IDEA'

WHEN SHILTON AND CLEMENCE RETIRE! WHAT THEN FOR ENGLAND?

Is the No. 1 position the No. 1 problem for Ron Greenwood? Who is there to succeed Peter Shilton or Ray Clemence? Read the startling facts in SHOOT! SPRING SPECIAL!

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and

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NEWS

Compiled by
Peter Stewart



DESK

ASTON Villa's £80,000 signing from Clyde, Joe Ward, must have created something of a record. He had to wait nine weeks before he could play for his new club. On the eve of his scheduled debut in the reserves, Joe went down with flu. Then came the big freeze.

Joe, 19, eventually wore the Villa shirt in the Central League against Manchester United and scored in the 2-2 draw.

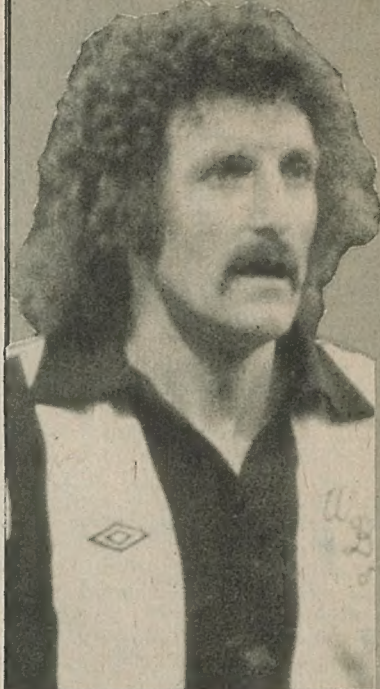
Arsenal for Belfast

ARSENAL are to play Cliftonville, in Belfast, before the start of next season, in a fixture to mark the Solitude outfit's Centenary Year.

Incidentally, the last time The Gunners appeared in the Northern Ireland capital was back in September, 1969, when they went under, 0-1, to Glentoran, in a Fairs Cup-tie, at The Oval. However, Arsenal, 3-0 Highbury victors a fortnight earlier, went on to lift the trophy — their first and so far only major Euro award — later in that 1969-70 campaign.

THE long-awaited testimonial game for former Hearts player and trainer John Cumming — planned for the end of this season — has had to be postponed because of the backlog of fixtures following the recent "freeze up".

'Bomber's' aiming for the title



EVERGREEN Tony Brown (left), 17 years a professional with West Bromwich Albion, still hasn't given up hope of winning a First Division Championship medal this season.

"The current Albion side is the best I have ever played in and we must be in with a chance of the title," he says.

"Bomber" Brown, who set up a new League goalscoring record for Albion when he netted his 209th goal against Leeds last October, first appeared for Albion as a 17-year-old way back in 1963.

The former Manchester school-boy, who was capped by England in 1971, was in the Albion side that won the F.A. Cup with a 1-0 defeat of Everton in 1968.

Brown claims manager Ron Atkinson, appointed 15 months ago, has developed fantastic team spirit and encouraged players to work hard for each other.

"We have shown our potential this season. We held both Nottingham Forest and Liverpool and should have beaten both at a time when we were not really at our best."

Brown, who has now made well over 500 League appearances for Albion, looks longingly for that League title success.

For a player now nearing the twilight of his first-class career it might well be that he can celebrate in the best possible way by scoring the goals that will put Albion at the top of the League.

More players

wanted Down Under

GERRY Barlow, the former Preston and Blackburn star now enjoying a new career in Australia with Canberra, would like to hear from other good class professional players interested in joining him Down Under.

If any player would like the chance of teaming up with Gerry send your playing background, current club and marital status to Gerry, at 7 Hopkins Street, Weston, Canberra, Australia.

FACTastic

Only 13 spectators — yes, THIRTEEN — turned up to watch Stockport County play Leicester City in a Second Division game in 1921. No, the game was not at Edgeley Park, Stockport, but at Old Trafford. County's ground had been closed by the F.A., hence the transfer to the home of Manchester United. Only a few months previous to that "13 fans" match, more than 70,000 spectators watched Wolves play Grimsby Town in a Cup Semi-Final on that same Old Trafford pitch.

TONY DUNNE has rejected a further one-year contract with Bolton. The long-serving full-back hopes to go to the States, or settle for a player-manager's job.

If Tony decided to return to his native Dublin I'm sure there would be a queue of League of Ireland clubs eager to seek his services.

● Bolton's last outstanding fixture — the home game against Spurs — will now be played on Tuesday, May 8th.

'Win' Double for Des



HIBERNIAN midfielder star Des Bremner missed a trip to Israel to be with his wife Pat who was expecting a baby.

But Liam, who weighed in at 6lb 5oz and Nial, half an ounce heavier, sprang a twin surprise. And what a great piece of news for Hibs.

Des, 26, said: "What a prize pair. It means I'll need to whip the lads into a winning streak. Now my family has been doubled I badly need the win bonuses."

Liverpool manager Bob Paisley, voted Bell's Manager of the Month for February, is now favourite for the Manager of the Year title. If he should receive that coveted award, it will be his third since taking over at Anfield in 1974.



Woeful Wembley

YOU may not have noticed it on television ... but the Wembley pitch was in an awful state for the League Cup Final. Gone are the days when the Wembley surface was green and true. Now, even though it is played on very seldom, it is worse than some League grounds — and you know what a battering they've taken this winter.

It is sad that England's premier ground is in such a bad way. Just before the League Cup Final, there was a hockey match and goodness knows what damage that did to the turf. Wembley isn't owned by the League or the F.A., so they have no right to stop other sports there.

The "Wembley downfall" started around ten years ago when horses were allowed to trample all over the hallowed turf. It's never been the same since.

In fact, Wembley Stadium is very much behind the times compared with other top stadiums in Europe. The planned facelift can't come soon enough. The approaches to the ground, entrances and exits simply aren't good enough. And should fans really have to pay West End night club prices for a pre-match drink?

Wembley has been the scene of some memorable matches, but the time has come for the place to be made worthy of the occasions it stages.

STEVE Smith, the 31-year-old Halifax midfielder player, has certainly proved it doesn't pay to lose faith.

Steve, who made his League debut for Huddersfield way back in September, 1964, went on to make 330 League appearances for the Leeds Road side and then found himself given a free transfer in the 1977 close season.

Smith, who had made three appearances on loan to Bolton from Huddersfield in the period 1974-75, was signed by Halifax and has now topped the 400 League appearance mark. Just keep going, Steve.

DJ's OK?

DISC jockeys from Radio Forth are taking over at Easter Road and Tynecastle, Edinburgh, to present musical requests, team changes and keep the fans informed.

The move follows the recent Scottish Cup-tie between Hibs and Hearts at Easter Road when police had to invade the Hearts end following a hail of bottles and other objects being thrown on to the field. About 40 people were arrested during and after the game.

Bringing in the disc jockeys, it is hoped, will curb the hooliganism which has become part of the football scene recently, particularly in matches between the two Edinburgh sides.

THE HAMMER TOPS

"THE HAMMER", West Ham's match-day programme, edited by Jack Helliar, has been voted the best in the Second Division. This is the 12th season in succession THE HAMMER has won a place in the overall Top 20 awards.

Taking into account cost and content the programme was placed tenth among all clubs.



Norwich City's "Cyrille Regis"

NORWICH have raided the Isthmian League for an unknown striker they feel could develop into another Cyrille Regis.

They paid Maidenhead United £5,000 for Alan Cordice, a powerfully built 23-year-old.

That's what it cost West Bromwich Albion to capture Regis, from Hayes, and West Ham to get Alan Devonshire, from Southall — both also Isthmian League sides.

Regis and Devonshire have made a tremendous impression at the highest level of the game. And Norwich boss John Bond feels Cordice has the potential to do the same.

"He has two good feet, is strong in the air, brave, and black: so the comparison with Regis is inevitable," says Bond.

"You have got to look outside the Football League for players now, because the market at the top end has gone silly.

"Even if I could compete with an open cheque book I'm not sure I would — when £200,000 is being demanded for no more than average players.

"It's time we all made a stand and tried to bring some sanity back into the game."

Scotland's Player of the Year



DUNDEE United's Paul Hegarty (left, dark shorts) is "Player of the Year" North of the border. He was the choice of Scotland's 800 professionals and received his trophy and a £400 holiday abroad voucher at a dinner held recently in Glasgow. Last year's winner, the first, was Derek Johnstone of Rangers.

Since joining the Tannadice side from Hamilton Academicals as a striker in November, 1974, it is as a centre-half Hegarty has made his mark in an outstanding defensive partnership with Dave Narey.

The young Player of the Year award also went to Dundee United — to Raymond Stewart, the Under-21 international full-back. The First Division award went to Brian McLaughlin of Ayr United, and the Second Division award to Mike Leonard of Dunfermline.

THE long wait for Eire players for their international caps is over. The F.A. of Ireland have had difficulty getting supplies of the caps, but deliveries of the coveted awards has now begun.

In future players will get just one cap and thereafter an annual certificate. Not the same is it?

RAMS' LONDON FANS

MORE NEWS from Supporters Clubs... The London Branch of the Derby County Supporters Club are reforming. Any Rams' fans in London and the South interested in joining should write to Mark Pickup, "Apulgarth", Meadows Road, East Wittering, West Sussex, or phone him on 0243 670939.

Better Deal in England

YUGOSLAV international Bosco Janovic, who has joined Middlesbrough for £100,000, says forwards get a better deal in England than in his own country. The six-cap forward says: "In Yugoslavia, they are chopped down from behind by defenders. In England, the referees are more strict."

THERE was no bitterness when Stewart Barrowclough was put on the transfer list by Birmingham City.

Barrowclough has only made 15 first team appearances since his close season move from Newcastle.

He said: "I must accept the consequences of my poor performances. But my wife has never really settled in the area and now I'm looking for a new club back in the North."

A PROPOSED Anglo-American tournament this summer that would have included Southampton, Bristol City and Bristol Rovers has been called-off.

Don Megson, the former Bristol Rovers manager, who is now chief at Portland Timbers, says one of the American clubs scheduled to take part, Seattle, are unable to arrange suitable dates.

Now, Megson is hoping to stage the competition in 1980.

Hard work gets results

ALEC Stock's recipe for rescuing struggling clubs is to work hard.

"That is the only thing that gets results," says Stock, 62, who has taken over the manager's job at Bournemouth this season.

"It is graft that makes a good football side, coupled with attention to detail," he says.

Stock sprang to managerial fame 30 years ago in leading Yeovil on their historic F.A. Cup run of 1949.

IN A recent two-way switch, much-travelled Bangor striker Martin Malone joined Crusaders, while the North Belfast club's goalscorer moved to The Seaside.

FIFA referee Pat Partridge (Cockfield), who officiated in the 1978 World Cup, has been sworn in as a Durham magistrate.

RUSSELL Coughlin, a 19-year-old midfielder who never made the grade at Manchester City, is now hoping to lift the flagging fortunes of Blackburn Rovers.

The Swansea-born youngster — winner of Welsh schoolboy and youth honours — cost Rovers £40,000 and could well prove one of the bargains of the season.

TREVOR Francis is to wear Birmingham City's colours again — if "headmaster" Brian Clough gives his permission.

Garry Pendrey, the long-serving Birmingham defender, is having a testimonial game at St. Andrew's shortly and wants his old team-mate to play in the match.

Pendrey is also keen to have another two of his old pals, Howard Kendall (now Stoke) and Kenny Burns (Forest) in his side.

LOOK on the money side... at the start of the season Ayr United turned down an £80,000 bid from Motherwell for Walter McCall and then sold him to St. Johnstone for £30,000. The Fir Park side, then managed by Roger Hynd, rejected a move of around £60,000 from an English club for Peter Marinello and when Ally MacLeod took over, sold him to Fulham for £35,000.

There must be a financial wizard somewhere who can make some sense out of that!

FACTASTIC, April 14th issue, mentioned the highest total of goals in one F.A. Cup-tie was 20, when Newcastle beat Derby after four matches in 1924. Well, many readers have reminded me that Preston beat Hyde 26-0 way back in 1887, which is still a record. Sorry for the error.



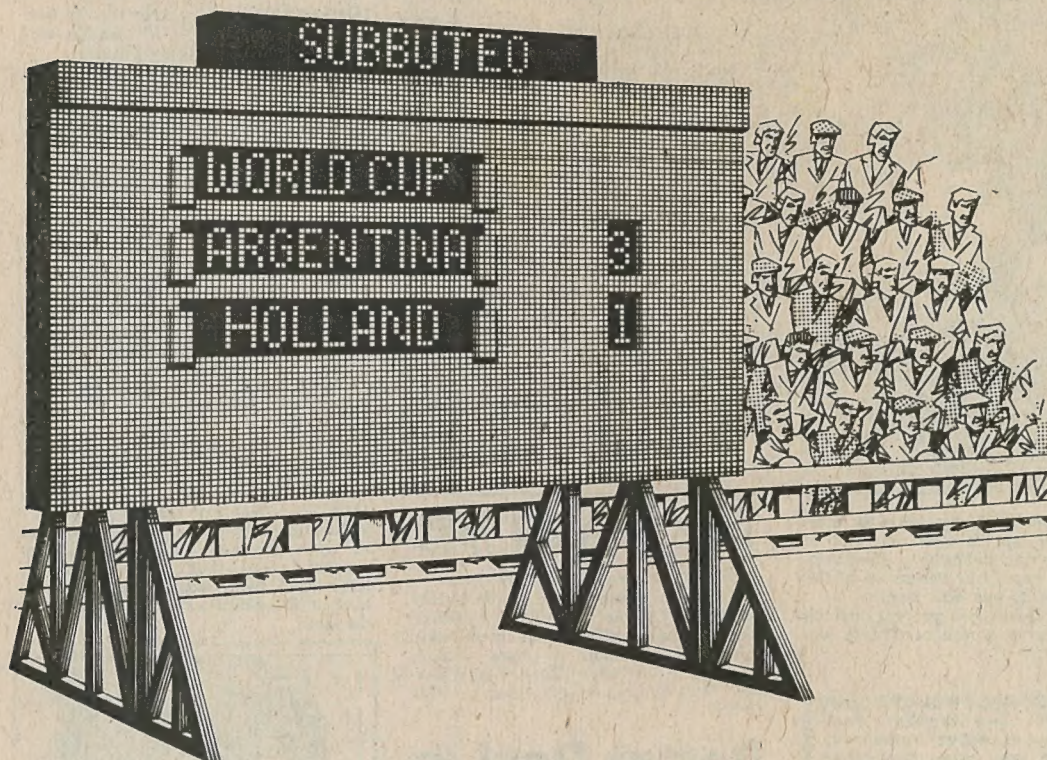
ONCE again there are fears about the future of Chelsea defender David Hay (above). The Scottish star has been dogged by various injuries in recent years and is now starting yet another comeback.

Manager Danny Blanchflower says: "This is a very critical period for David. He's missed a couple of seasons' football and at his age (31) it isn't easy to come back into a game that gets more physically demanding each year."

IPSWICH Town's young central-defender TERRY BUTCHER getting away from the pressures of football to enjoy his second love, fishing on the banks of the river Gipping at Ipswich.



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GOAL-MAKER Dave Thomas—

Great understanding with Latchford

ONE of the most exciting sights in English football is that of Everton winger Dave Thomas, socks rolled down to his ankles, flying past another defender.

"I can't stand thick pads around my legs," explains Thomas. "I know some managers insist on their players wearing them to prevent injuries. But if I were about to join a club with that policy, I probably wouldn't sign for them!"

Thomas has had a marvellous couple of years at Everton, and his ability to get behind defences has helped Bob Latchford enjoy his best scoring spell. Latchford reckons 80 per cent of his 30 First Division goals last term were made by the winger.

The irony is that, at a time when wingmen are back in fashion, he has been overlooked at international level.

He's been capped at every level for England, including eight full caps. But Ron Greenwood hasn't picked him for his squad.

"There was a spell this season when I was playing really well and thought I might get called up. But Ron Greenwood has stuck with Peter Barnes and Steve Coppell and you can't say they've done badly for England.

"Barnes has been very inconsistent, but I'm not knocking the lad. He has a lot of ability and Greenwood has kept

faith in it. He believes in showing loyalty to his players, even when they're not on top form.

"That's a good thing. Chopping and changing can often bring more problems. But it would be nice if lads like myself on the outside were given just a little more incentive."

Thomas doesn't mope about it. As he stated in last week's SHOOT, he regards international caps as the icing on the cake. His main thoughts, he says, are geared towards making Everton successful.

"Everton are a great club and I've really enjoyed myself here. I have probably suffered in the past from not having someone who could get on the end of my crosses. But Bob Latchford and I have developed a good understanding.

"I've got to know what sort of crosses he likes, although there isn't always time to pick your spot in the middle. Mostly, you're under so much pressure, you don't even have time to look up.

"You just concentrate on crossing it somewhere in the direction of the middle of the goal. So it helps to know someone like Bob will be in there, ready to have a go at anything. He doesn't mind sticking his head into a crowded penalty-area."

If you keep your eye on Thomas when he's not on the ball, you'll



witness one of the most unusual sights in football — a player who always replaces the divots.

"I'm a keen gardener myself and I hate to see big lumps of earth pulled out. When I see a big divot, I think to myself, I'd better put that back."

He's a player who shuns the fast cars and bright lights that seem to attract so many other footballers. When he's finished training, he heads straight for home in the Lancashire village of Parbold.

And there's nothing he likes more than tending to his garden. He even grows tomatoes and other foodstuffs for his wife and two children.

"Some of the other lads have taken the mickey out of me in the past. I suppose gardening and football don't seem to go together. But I don't think there's a better sight than a good-looking garden."

While the other players are discussing the performance of their cars, or their social arrangements at Goodison Park, Thomas is normally in conversation with the groundsman — talking 'shop.'

He was brought up in the North-East and when he hangs up his boots, he wants to go back there.

"I don't think I'll stay in the game. There's enough pressure just playing, without going into management. They're the people who really feel the pressure.

"I want to return to the North-East. It's so peaceful where we go up there, it's a different world.

"But I've no idea what I'll do when I finish playing football. I'll probably end up as a gardener somewhere. Still, I could think of a lot worse occupations."

THE ESTABLISHED EVERTON STAR— AND ONE FOR THE FUTURE

A LOT of people could be putting extra special value on some odd jobs they had done on their property 18 months ago. The likeable young labourer they employed is named Imre Varadi — his parents are Hungarian — and between games for non-League side Bromsgrove Rovers in Letchworth he earned a few pounds here and there repairing paths and cementing the odd crack or two in houses.

Those householders will now be able to point to his work and say "Imre did that for me while he was waiting for his chance in football... now he's playing for Everton!"

Incredible as it seems the 19-year-old Varadi has been transformed, in under two seasons, from a part-time odd-job merchant into a very exciting £80,000 prospect.

Harry Haslam, manager of Sheffield United, living up to his reputation of top-talent finder, took Varadi to the South Yorkshire club. He liked the look of the player who puts his head down and grittily rips into defences.

Haslam said at the time: "He will make my first team players look over their shoulders and have to graft to keep their places." He was so right about Varadi's developing challenge. In ten Central League appearances he struck eight goals.

Everton boss Gordon Lee acting on the good reports about Varadi from



the player he was grooming slowly but surely — Varadi had only played six Second Division games but notched up four goals.

Varadi was the sole scorer for Sheffield United in the away matches against Crystal Palace and Charlton — both games resulting in 1-3 defeats for the Yorkshiremen — and showed his promise to the home supporters when he grabbed two of the goals in the 3-3 draw with Cambridge on December 30th.

The sudden transfer perplexed many Sheffield supporters, especially when they recalled his goals against Cambridge. The first was blasted home after the Argentinian Alex Sabella had moved forward menacingly and passed to Peter Anderson to cross perfectly for Varadi to finish off

than is normal." Happy with his capture, Lee went on: "I regard him as an excellent prospect. I know it seems a lot to pay for a trial player but then figures have gone out of all proportion. It used to be £30,000 for a prospect like Varadi but these days the going rate is what I've paid."

We put it to Lee that Varadi's career had rocketed in such a short time that it might be difficult for the player to keep things in perspective. "Yes, promotions like this can cause problems for young players," said Lee obviously in a humorous mood, "but if he doesn't keep his feet on the ground we'll hit him over the head! Anyway, all players need a knock on the head now and again if they are to handle a fair amount of success."

When Harry Haslam needed

GOALSCORER Imre Varadi—

He makes things happen

his scouts, journeyed twice to make his own personal assessment of the player. He told SHOOT: "I liked what I saw — he is a busy type of player — he makes things happen — he wants to play."

Needing "instant" money for other priorities, Haslam couldn't refuse Lee's staggering offer of £80,000 for

so convincingly.

His second goal, after collecting a centre from Cliff Calvert, showed composure. He took his time to round a defender then shot stylishly to the left of the 'keeper.

According to Gordon Lee: "Varadi has been signed for the future but I expect him to make more progress

money as manager of Luton he sold a "prospect" to Everton. The player on that occasion? Andy King. Varadi's skills are different to King's but, when the likes of Haslam and Lee recognise and back the non-stop aggressive value of Varadi, it will be interesting to see how he measures in the highest League company and if, like King before him, he wins deserved popularity with his genuine attitude and contribution to the game.

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SHOOT!

JOHN LACY has proved his First Division class

JOHN Lacy has every reason to be satisfied as he comes to the end of his first season with Tottenham Hotspur.

He has proved he can compete comfortably at the highest level of the game and has played a leading part in helping Spurs to establish themselves back in the First Division.

It has not been easy for Lacy since he made the £200,000 move from Fulham to White Hart Lane last summer.

For he had joined a club whose sensational swoop for Argentine World Cup stars Osvaldo Ardiles and Ricardo Villa has put them firmly in the spotlight.

All eyes were on Spurs at the season's start when every mistake the players made was magnified.

Instead of applauding Tottenham's breathtaking bravery a lot of people were ready to knock them. And none of this made Lacy's task any easier.

But the quietly spoken, 26-year-old centre-half, who gained an economics degree at London University, did not let it get him down. He got on with his job and has now emerged as a solid and dependable member of the side.

Lacy admits the signing of Ardiles and Villa tended to push him into the background a bit. And he was grateful for that.

Moving

"It suited me fine that people were more concerned about the progress of Ardiles and Villa. It helped take some of the pressure off me," says Lacy.

"I had enough problems as it was. What with settling into a new team, adjusting to new colleagues, and trying to find somewhere to live.

"That was the biggest drawback of all. I lived in Surrey at Fulham and that was too far to travel each day after my transfer.

"It took months to get a house nearer to Tottenham sorted out and in that time I had hardly any home life. I used to spend most of the week at my sister's place in North London and missed my wife and two children very much.

"Now we are all together again, happily settled into a house at Southgate.

"It was an awkward time to move for a lot of other reasons, as well. Tottenham had just returned to the First Division and had spent a lot of money in a bid to make sure they stayed there.

"It was obvious the Argentinian lads would take a time to settle and it was also some time before we were able to get anything like a settled team out.

"In fact you could say we still have not got one, I suppose. For manager Keith Burkinshaw is still making changes."

Burkinshaw was forced to chop

and change so much to try and bring stability that Lacy and winger Peter Taylor were the only two players in the squad to occupy a regular spot in the line-up.

But even Taylor lost form and his place in the side in the past two months.

But Tottenham still did enough to claim a mid-table place in the table. And they will all be happy to settle for that.

"We've got to be pleased with it. For there has been a massive upheaval at the club since we won promotion from the Second Division last season," claims Lacy.

"Our run to the Sixth Round of the F.A. Cup — where we were knocked out by Manchester United in a replay — was the icing on the cake and we all feel we have established a good platform for next season.

"The dark days of the early weeks of the season — when we were knocked out of the League Cup by Third Division Swansea and hammered 7-0 at Liverpool — are all forgotten now.

"We have come a long way since those shattering setbacks and I firmly believe we can all look forward to the future with confidence.

"I don't regret joining Tottenham for a moment. I had some great years at Fulham — including a Wembley F.A. Cup Final appearance in 1976. They were a good little club — Spurs are a good BIG one.

"I had a couple of options open to me when Fulham agreed to let me go.

"Brighton were also interested and as they are an ambitious club, determined to go places, their offer needed thinking about carefully.

"But in the end I decided on Tottenham because of the sheer tradition and resources of the club."



DOUG COLLINS aims to RESCUE ROCHDALE

ANYONE who takes on the 91st club in the Football League at a time when people are predicting their demise within six months, has to be brave, optimistic — and slightly mad!

That's the sort of comment former Burnley and Sunderland player Doug Collins has faced since becoming Rochdale's 12th post-war manager.

"I wouldn't have taken the job on if I thought it was a hopeless cause as so many people are predicting," says Collins boldly.

"I can honestly say I have been pleasantly surprised at the quality of the players I have inherited. Peter Madden did a terrific job in lifting the spirits when he arrived here and now I have to convince them that they really can play a bit.

"When a club has been in the doldrums as long as Rochdale have the players tend to drop their heads when anything goes wrong, and we have to turn the tide and make them fight.

"There's been evidence we're succeeding in that direction with the 4-0 win at Scunthorpe, and promising displays against Portsmouth and Wimbledon.

"Before the Scunthorpe game we'd gone six games without even scoring a goal, and five of those matches were lost 1-0. You've no idea how depressing life is when that sort of thing happens. You begin to wonder if you'll ever score again. Now we've hit seven goals in three games and the confidence is coming back."

Collins who is in his first managerial job, believes Rochdale can escape the threat of having to apply for re-election.

"Obviously we're going to need a bit of luck. Any club does whether their winners or losers,

going for promotion or fighting against relegation.

"There is a fear that if we finish in the bottom four we may not be voted back in, but we have to be positive. I've never been negative in my life. As a player I was always wanting to go forward and that'll be my philosophy here. We'll defend when we have to defend, but we'll be advancing most of the time and looking to improve our results home and away.

"People like Bobby Hoy, who's as good around the penalty-box as anyone I've seen in the First Division; Terry Owen who's scored plenty of goals in his career; and Chris Jones whose a great professional, must get their share of goals between now and the end of the season, but we have the matches in hand to ensure safety.

"We've played three of the top sides since I arrived and I can honestly say we've got better players than any of them.

"I don't believe in gimmicks and I don't expect the public to come until I've persuaded them that we've got a football team worth watching. After so many disappointments that takes some doing.

"Dave Sexton can go out and spend a million pounds whereas I've got virtually nothing, but that doesn't bother me. You can spend money and not get your return for it, and while it would be nice to get a couple of players I know my job is to get the best out of the men available to me.

"Brian Clough and Graham Taylor are the two best examples of men who've gone to clubs and transformed the form of players who had previously never been above average. If I can emulate them then I can put Rochdale back on the right tracks."

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IT was a national emergency that even pushed the threat of a War against Chile off the front pages. Several big companies offered to put up the cash; provincial football clubs offered to have a whip-round; even modest working people and old ladies offered to chip in with their savings.

Then there were the meetings. Three months of meetings stretching right through the scorching Argentinian summer. Meetings in offices in Buenos Aires; on the beach at Mar del Plata; in holiday bungalows. And finally the meeting that all Argentina was waiting for. It lasted two hours and fifty minutes, and officials of the Argentine F.A. then announced CESAR LUIS MENOTTI would continue as national team manager until 1982.

THE reason behind all the suspense, intrigue and national heartache was, simply, cash. Menotti's salary for the four years leading up to Argentina's historic World Cup win averaged out at around £14,000 a year — and he was asking for £100,000 to continue. The AFA said they couldn't possibly pay that amount, and offered £50,000. Menotti announced his resignation and in a climate of national despair, both sides settled for a compromise figure of £75,000 to be reviewed annually.

That, in a nutshell, is the story. The amazing thing is the resignation of a mere soccer manager should have sparked off such an explosion of popular sentiment and support.

I didn't notice hordes of Englishmen rushing to offer Don Revie their savings when he headed East

'Building a football team is a long-term process. Even at club level, any manager who signs a contract for less than two years is showing a lack of respect for his own profession.'

in search of more cash. The Scots didn't raise so much as a whimper when Ally MacLeod resigned. And even the Dutch didn't exactly indulge in scenes of mass hysteria when Rinus Michels, master-mind of their sensational 1974 World Cup performance, headed for pots of pesetas in Barcelona. So, what's Menotti got that the others haven't?

The obvious answer is success. He has, after all, led Argentina to their first ever World Cup Final win, and if the host nation hadn't emerged as World Champions, maybe Menotti would have departed silently via the back door.

But even assuming that success has been the keystone, there's more to Menotti's popularity than that. And for a European to understand the full extent of his achievement, maybe it's necessary to understand a little about the traditional shambles of Argentinian football.

There's no national League as we know it — only an end-of-

The Argentine César who plans to



Argentina line-up before one of their earlier World Cup games.

season tournament when the top Buenos Aires sides measure their strength against the Champions of the provincial Leagues. The Buenos Aires Metropolitan Championship is a vast sprawling competition that many clubs simply don't take seriously.

The Argentinian player is traditionally lazy and skips training as much as possible. Club finances

are in bad shape and often don't bear too much close investigation.

The national team is a sideline, overshadowed by club interests and financial intrigue. Even the World Cup manager is appointed six weeks before the Finals, and the team is generally a bunch of talented Buenos Aires players determined to shine individually and thus secure a lucrative transfer

to Europe.

At least, that's how the picture looked when Menotti arrived on the scene. His role in attempting to revolutionise all these shortcomings far exceeds the duties of any other national team manager, and whereas failure could have led to widespread resentment at his "interfering", his World Cup victory has converted him into a Messiah.

As Messiahs go, Menotti must rate among the younger ones. He was a good left-side midfielder with Rosario Central, but had then moved to Brazil where he acquired

'Managers and directors are minor characters. The two top priorities in football are the players and the public.'

priceless experience by playing alongside Pelé with Santos. He then played out the twilight of his career with the New York Generals before returning to Argentina to begin a career in management.

Barely older than some of his players, Menotti soon found success, producing a sensational Huracán team that not only won the Metropolitan Championship but won it playing attractive attacking football in a League dominated by cynical defence-minded teams.

"I don't remember when the AFA approached me to take over the national team," admits Menotti, "but I think it was in August, 1974. I had been dreaming about it for some time because I thought it was a fantastic opportunity to try and put into practice all the things I'd talked about over

the years. I suddenly felt a special mixture of passion and vocation, and I couldn't help smiling like a contented cat."

During the next four years, Menotti needed all his reserves of passion and vocation. He'd accepted the job, but making certain conditions including a full programme of international matches and a good deal of time each season when he could work with his squad. This immediately aroused strong resentment among club directors and for three years Menotti continued to suffer a total lack of co-operation from several clubs, especially the two Buenos Aires giants, River Plate and Boca Juniors.

What's more, Menotti paid a great deal of attention to the provinces, and of the team that beat Holland in the World Cup Final, seven had originated from outside Buenos Aires — which led to more resentment in the capital.

The Press was another problem. In Argentina, journalists are persistent, to say the least, and Menotti found himself giving interviews even in his bathroom through a thick layer of shaving cream. Some of the criticism was merciless, and magazines even began to pick their own squad and run headlines like: "MENOTTI'S WINGER TERRIBLE. OURS SCORES TWICE."



Captain Passarella holds aloft the World Cup trophy after Argentina had beaten Holland in the Final.

Ardiles, Galván and Larrosa, whom the critics felt were not up to international standard. The ups and downs of the last four years have undoubtedly left their mark.

"The night before we played our first match against Hungary I went to the bathroom and had a good look at myself in the mirror. I could see the last three years engraved on my face. A load of new wrinkles and the grey hair. I can't explain to you or anyone else the nerves, the pressures, the tensions. The big problems and the little ones. Even little problems can destroy you if you've got enough of them."

If the outside pressures from the clubs, the administration and the Press created an atmosphere of tension, Menotti was not without his problems when it came to building his team. In less than four years he tried to change the mentality of the Argentinian player — and he succeeded.

"The traditional Argentinian player doesn't like working hard in training. He doesn't play one-touch football because he likes to play around with the ball before passing it. He's an individualist and is short on team spirit."

"He's not a 90-minute player and at the beginning of the game he thinks 'there's a long time to go' so even if his team has won a corner, he's just as likely to be tying his bootlace or looking for his mates in the stand. He's the most talented, imaginative and inventive player in the world, but he believes in anarchy and won't play for the team."

Menotti set about producing a team. It was a struggle, and he had serious setbacks when Kempes,

Scotta and Brindisi departed for Europe, his captain Carrascosa and goalkeeper Gatti backed out; and his stopper Piazza had to return to France after his wife had had a car accident.

But Argentina won the World Cup, even though they didn't fulfil all of Menotti's hopes. It would previously have been unthinkable for an Argentinian team to play seven World Cup matches without any man-to-man marking; without outrageously time-wasting and feigning injury; without mass-protesting referees' decisions.

Even if the Argentinians still fell short of perfection, Menotti had still achieved a lot. "We have a

'I want serious professional players, but who never stop treating the game as a vocation.'

duty to entertain the public," he insists, "whether it's the World Cup Final or a friendly."

When the dust had settled in Buenos Aires, Menotti felt empty and drained. "I'm smoking eighty cigarettes a day and I've got no enthusiasm for anything. I've climbed the mountain and now I'm back down among the boring foothills."

It took three months and a spell of preparing the Argentina Youth Team to restore Menotti's enthusiasm for the game. By this time, his contract was due to expire and offers poured in from all corners of the footballing world when it became apparent that the AFA weren't going to meet his financial demands.

Now the storm has passed,

conquer the world again

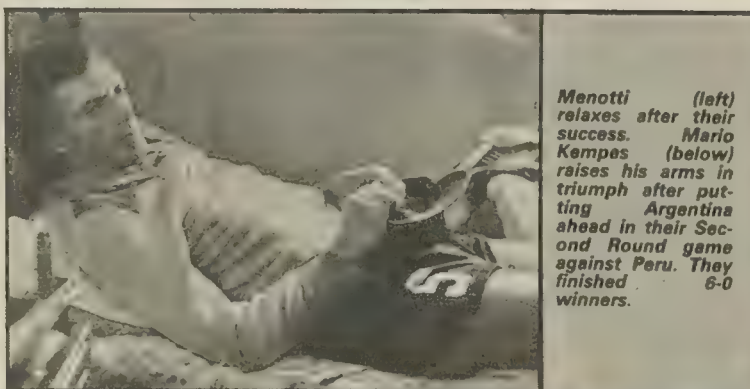
Fortunately Menotti had the character and personality to withstand the storms. His long face accentuated by long hair gave him the reputation of being a "bohemian", and certainly Menotti is sufficiently his own man to remain untouched by the rituals of fashionable society.

'Argentinian players don't work hard in training. They are individualists and short on team spirit.'

He has faith both in himself and his footballing philosophy and loves talking 25 hours a day about football. Finally, even the anti-Menotti Press came to accept they were dealing with an honest man with good (if mistaken) intentions. Time has proved that even the intentions weren't mistaken.

But Menotti's ability to ride through the storms was not due to simply having a hard skin. He's a sensitive man forced into a situation where he has to accept brutal criticism without over-reacting and, to his credit, he always looked carefully to see whether the criticism was justified and tried to give a rational answer.

He defended his players stoutly, especially squad members like



Menotti (left) relaxes after their success. Mario Kempes (below) raises his arms in triumph after putting Argentina ahead in their Second Round game against Peru. They finished 6-0 winners.



Menotti faces another three grueling years of problems, pressures and Pressmen.

"We've got to start again from scratch — and it'll be more difficult this time round, because everyone will think Argentina are the team to beat, and of course we won't be playing at home."

"The base of the team has been broken up, and I'm not going to be able to recall people like Ardiles, Bertoni, Villa and Kempes just for the odd couple of days. I've got to start building another team, using the material I've got here in Argentina. But I'm not worried."

"We've got the players and we've proved that with the correct organisation we can produce the goods. We must continue with our programme of re-organising Argentinian football."

Meanwhile, the players are cock-a-hoop that Menotti is continuing; his wife and children are happy because he was getting unbearable at home; the Argentinian people are happy; even the clubs are reasonably contented.

Menotti will need all his "passion and vocation" to climb Everest for a second time, but it appears he's one of a rare breed. He's the right man for the job — and it's the right job for the man. A rare combination.



Until the Quarter-Final stages of the European competitions, British teams had been going well. But four of them then went out, leaving only Nottingham Forest to represent us. Here a player from each of the four disappointed clubs gives his impressions of playing in Europe and the lessons to be learned...

K.O.'D IN



'We must be more patient'

Gary Owen — Manchester City

ter of a foreign team over two games, we can still get scathing write-ups from our Press, as we did when I was in an England Under-21 side against the Italians in Rome. In the previous match at home, we had won 2-1 — then in Rome we played more defensively to draw 0-0, and were panned for our display.

But if the Italians had come out on top over the two games, they would have been praised for their tactics, and it's the impatience of our Press, and also our fans, which can have a detrimental effect on British teams. For example, Manchester City were leading by two clear goals against the Polish side, Widzew Lodz, two seasons ago at Maine Road. Our fans kept shouting for more goals, we took chances in an attempt to get them, and left ourselves wide open to smash-and-grab raids by the Poles in which they scored twice.

And in addition to the impatience of our supporters, the impatience of British players themselves in a game can lead to their undoing — and in this respect, the Continentals can teach us something. They are

experts at playing the waiting game, they use nine men behind the ball for long periods, and then strike.

So to beat the Continentals at their own game, it's necessary for British teams to learn the art of patience — Liverpool have done this after years of campaigning in Europe, and now Nottingham Forest are trying to follow in their footsteps.

But even a side as successful as Liverpool is often criticised in this country — they have been described as "boring"

because they are prepared to be patient in their build-up before breaking away to score the goals that matter.

And while Liverpool have gained a great reputation throughout Europe at club level, I believe Ron Greenwood is adopting the right approach at all levels in his bid to make our national teams equal to the best. Indeed, I feel the best footballers are in this country, and if, say, a side such as Brazil was competing in our conditions of sunshine, and hard grounds, as well as on mud-soaked pitches, they would find it difficult to adapt as well as we do to all types of weather.



Kulik pierces Manchester City's defence.

CRITICISING the performances of British teams in European competitions is all too easy. In fact, the disparaging view of the media is responsible for putting the pressure on our players when ever they take on the Continentals.

If a British side reaches the later stages of a competition and loses, it is classed as a failure instead of a success by Press and television reporters. And even when we get the bet-

'Never lost at home to a foreign side'

Clive Woods — Ipswich Town

THE K.O. this season of British teams in Europe has been very disappointing, but certainly nothing to get pessimistic about.

West Bromwich Albion, didn't have the best of luck against Red Star Belgrade, as it was a goal in extra time that

ended their hopes of reaching the Semi-Finals of the U.E.F.A. Cup. For Rangers, it was a narrow 2-1 defeat on aggregate that put them out of the European Cup in their Quarter-Final against

Cologne, and my own club, Ipswich, weren't disgraced in going out to Barcelona in the second-leg of the European Cup-Winners' Cup.

What I'm saying is all these matches could have gone either way, and the Continentals didn't show clear-cut supremacy over the British sides.

Only in one respect would I concede the Continentals can come out ahead of us — and that is in their efficiency in scoring on the break. This is helped by the ability of their

full-backs to move quickly in to attack, and in general I believe their defenders show better ball control than ours when backing up their front men.

From reports, I gather Borussia got their three goals with deadly counter-punch methods against Manchester City in the U.E.F.A. Cup, and this is what I mean when I say the Continentals have nothing to learn about hitting back after being on the defensive.

But I think a great side like Liverpool has more to offer than the foreign teams. Liverpool can play the Continental game of patience, of defending while waiting for a chance to develop — then in addition, they can switch to the English method of pumping balls forward into the penalty-area.

And this is what English crowds enjoy, the constant activity around the penalty-area.

So in spite of the exit of British teams from European competition in the later stages this season, I'm not convinced they are ahead of us, apart from in the department I've already mentioned. And to back up my argument, I can point out that as far as I can remember in my years at Ipswich, the club have yet to lose at home to a foreign side in a European competition.



Eric Gates scores Ipswich's second goal.

THE QUARTER-FINALS...

'European teams not superior to ours'

I THOUGHT it a magnificent achievement by West Bromwich to get as far as they did in the U.E.F.A. Cup until a goal by Red Star in injury time ended our hopes of reaching the Semi-Final after the Yugoslavs had shown how cynical they could be in defence.

Sadly, it is only in matching the Continentals in being cynical that British teams will get the sort of results they want. We must prove

John Wile — West Bromwich Albion

we can be as single-minded as they are in stopping the opposing side from scoring. For example, when we lost 2-1 to Red Star on aggregate, it was my opinion three of their players should have been sent-off for ruthless tactics, which suggests, too, that the referee was not above criticism.

British players tend to accept rough-house tactics from foreign

teams.

It has been said the Continental teams have better ball-control than we do, but I disagree. They will stroke the ball around in deep positions where they have plenty of space, but most players can pass accurately when they are not under pressure and look good doing it. In all-round play we are just as skilful.

When West Bromwich qualified for the U.E.F.A. Cup, it was our first taste of European football for ten years, and we have learned from it. I believe that as the first essential of winning is not to let the other team score, we should concentrate more on doing this in European competition. Liverpool, the most Continental-type side in our First Division, know exactly how to operate against opposition in Europe.

I'm firmly convinced the European teams are not superior. We must concentrate more on defending, and waiting for the right moment to hit back. It doesn't pay to move forward all the time. Too often, British teams leave them-

West Brom force Red Star's keeper to his knees during the U.E.F.A. Cup clash.



selves vulnerable at the back when they are constantly pushing forward, and this is something we must guard against in European competitions.

Once we control our over-eagerness, there is nothing that British teams need to fear from any opposition.



'Things went drastically wrong'

Colin Jackson — Rangers

be tough because the West Germans are a thoroughly well-organised team that will not lose by any goals to anyone.

Anyway, things went drastically wrong at Ibrox. We had a fair bit of pressure, but we were shocked when they went ahead shortly after the interval. I'm not sure whether or not the way they worked their free-kick was entirely what they intended.

Knopka took the kick out on the right. He didn't appear to strike it properly and it threw our defence off balance. The ball came in low, Heinz Flohe dummied it and Dieter Muller, scorer of their first-leg goal, swivelled to hammer it low past Peter McCloy.

That left us with the task of having to score three goals to qualify for the Semi-Finals. In the end we got one through Tommy McLean.

We went out and there were several West Germans who impressed me over the two games.

Herbert Zimmerman is a tremendous left-back. He pops up all over the place and has a fine shot.

He could be a class midfield player. A couple of days after our second-leg match Cologne won

5-0 in a Bundesliga game and I wasn't surprised to see Zimmerman had scored twice.

Heinz Flohe is the key-man of their midfield. He dictates the way they play and had a great influence on his team-mates.

Herbert Neumann does a good, solid workmanlike job in the middle of the pitch, too, as does Bernd Cullmann. Cologne really have a lot of superb players and, of course, coach Hennes Weisweiler

is rated among the best in the world.

Our manager John Greig called him a fox and I agreed with the boss. Old Hennes is a master of strategy on and off the field.

Will Cologne beat Forest overall? That's an extremely difficult question. They are a well-drilled team and can make things hard. They can close up shop and still be very dangerous on the break, especially with someone like Muller lurking around in your penalty-area. Forest will have to beware!

KEVIN Keegan said we deserved to be given the European Cup after knocking out Italian Champions Juventus and Dutch title-winners PSV Eindhoven.

Brian Clough said we had scared the hell out Europe after those results. Many experts considered us good enough to become the European Kingpins, but, unfortunately, we fell at the Quarter-Final stage to Cologne.

We went out on a 2-1 aggregate and the second-leg at Ibrox was one of the most frustrating nights of my career. Rangers obviously believed we could overwhelm Cologne's slender 1-0 lead from the first-leg.

Naturally, we realised it would



Cologne's first-leg goal by Muller.

WHEN Chelsea lost 1-3 at home to Queens Park Rangers I knew we were doomed for the Second Division. Funnily enough, before that game I was reasonably confident we could pull something out of the bag. Our form had improved and with vital home games against Rangers and Wolves coming up, our fate was in our own hands.

I offer no excuses for relegation. It hurts to say it, but I suppose we deserve it. We've conceded around 80 goals, which is scandalous. When a team does that it cannot expect to survive in Division One.

The tragedy is I don't think the standard of the First Division is THAT good. There are six or seven outstanding sides; another four or five good teams who are well-organised; but against quite a few clubs, I believe you only have to play reasonably well to 'get a result'. Chelsea haven't even done that.

Personally, I'm shattered. The prospect of relegation is a daunting one and it hurts me. Do I want to play in the Second Division? No... but then no First Division player does, and every Second Division player wants to play in the First.

I signed a new two-year contract with Chelsea last summer and said in my column that I did so because I saw a future for the club. That was

how I felt at the time. I knew we wouldn't win the Championship, but I looked around and saw some fair players, and thought that with organisation we could hold our own.

We've given away so many stupid goals, though, that we were struggling from the word go.

As I write, we've won only four games, a sad statistic which speaks for itself. I would put the blame on us, the players, not the management. Once you're out on the park it's up to you, and we haven't produced the goods.

Strengthen

We've had injury problems, but who hasn't? I can't offer that as an excuse. I think the fact we haven't been able to compete in the transfer market for so long finally caught up with us, because in modern day soccer it is imperative to be able to strengthen your squad when necessary.

I can't honestly say what will happen to me. Chelsea means a lot; I've been with them for almost half my life and if I leave it will be a big

wrench. The club have been good, but the time to make any decision will be at the end of the season, or just before.

I'm not trying to whitewash the situation, but right now I'm more concerned with playing for our pride to think too much about next season.

Naturally I have my England career to consider. My form over the past year has not been what I would have liked, although having admitted that, I've certainly been a great deal happier with the way I've

played this year.

I seem to have more zest for the game, and even though we're fighting a lost cause, I still look forward to playing. Being part of the England set-up means a lot to me, and all I can do is to give 100 per cent, keep plugging away and hope to be included for our summer games.

I think Danny Blanchflower will stay on. What does worry me is that too many people have accepted the fact Chelsea will bounce back at the first time of asking. I hope that every player at Stamford Bridge has been stung by relegation and nobody takes anything for granted.

I was relegated with Chelsea four years ago. The then manager Eddie McCreadie made me captain soon after I came into the team and I took up the challenge. Our younger players now will learn and benefit from this experience just as I did before.

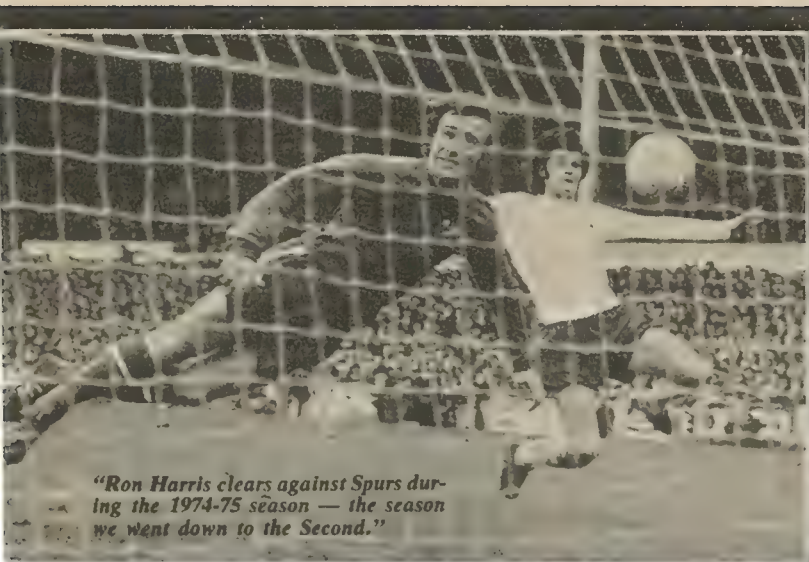
It taught me to appreciate the

**RAY
WILKINS**
Writes for you

'No excuses for relegation'



"Our defeat by Q.P.R. (dark socks) doomed us to relegation."



"Ron Harris clears against Spurs during the 1974-75 season — the season we went down to the Second."



good times in football, because until you've had rough times you don't know just how good it is for things to go well.

I've realised that to succeed in football you must really want to play... to give the game everything and more and never shirk on anything.

I like to think I can motivate myself because I love soccer so much. Even when we were 6-0 down at Forest the other week I kept going, as did the other lads. Professional pride was the reason.

People have said my type of game isn't suited to relegation football, yet I feel I can, and should, be able to play naturally under any circumstances. If I've lost anything it's confidence. Yet as I said, I don't think I've been playing too badly in recent weeks.

There are some good players at Chelsea and the future can be bright if the attitude is right, but nobody must take anything for granted. It took us three seasons to get back last time, and Division Two is far from a doddle.

I promise SHOOT readers I shall speak in more detail about my future when a decision has been made, a decision that will not be just mine, of course, but the club's as well.

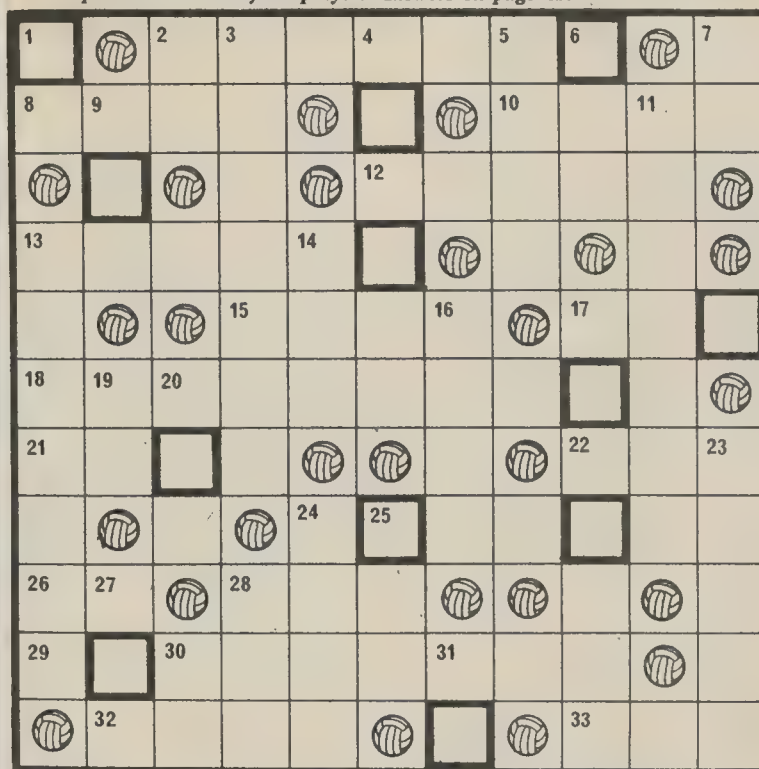
In the meantime, I want to take two points off Middlesbrough at Stamford Bridge on Saturday (April 21st). With the pressure off us, the newer players must take the chance to learn a lot in a short space of time and you learn a little in every match.

Join me again in a fortnight,

Ray Winstanley

Go for the Double

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of an Ipswich Town midfielder player. Answers on page 42.



ACROSS:—

- (2) The Saddlers from Fellows Park.
- (8) L--- St-eet, ground of St. Mirren.
- (10) ----ville Stadium of Bristol Rovers.
- (12) Alter or modify.
- (13) Relinquish office. Many managers seem to do this.
- (15) --n--worth Road (Luton Town). "Similar" from the omissions.
- (17) Take three letters from Maine Road for a purpose.
- (18) Scotland's oldest football club.
- (21) --lh-r-t Park (Crystal Palace). Employers from the missing letters.
- (22) Fabric or Dutch World Cup player.
- (24) John ---, Aston Villa defender.
- (26) Kenny San---m of Crystal Palace.
- (28) Bristol Rovers, The P---at-s.
- (29) --- Park, Dundee United.
- (32) McAndrew, Middlesbrough mid-field player.
- (33) A-nf-el- Park (Stirling Albion). The omissions reversed.

DOWN:—

- (1) Hud-ersfield T-wn play in the Fourth Division
- (2) John -il- of West Bromwich Albion.

- (3) Osvaldo ---, Spurs player.
- (4) Don ---, Q.P.R. midfield player.
- (5) Take four letters from Palace for a jump.
- (6) One circuit of the pitch, for instance.
- (7) --- Etienne, French League club.
- (9) Belle --- Ground, Doncaster Rovers.
- (11) Andy Gray plays as one.
- (13) Ask.
- (14) --gg La-e, home of Bury.
- (16) D---dal- (P.N.E.) Sword from the missing letters.
- (17) Marked with a type of "pointer".
- (19) E---ebio, European Footballer of the Year in 1965.
- (20) Glenn K---ey of Blackburn Rovers.
- (23) Tall structure of a type which might support the floodlights.
- (24) Frank ---, Leeds United player.
- (25) Colour of the card shown by the ref when sending a player off.
- (27) Arbr---h play at Gayfield Park.
- (28) ---ian Park (Cardiff). The ground needs the letters of a hostelry.
- (30) Ei-dh-ven, Dutch League club.
- (31) S---cil Bank, home of The Imps.

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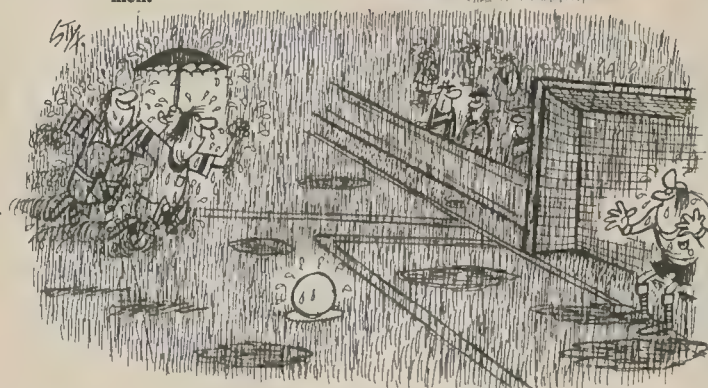
"Here, Bert — what happened to that little forward who came charging at me?"



"No, mate — I'm not locking them out — I'm locking them in"



This week Aston Villa and England defender JOHN GIDMAN and his lovely wife Claire select the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



"I told you that ref was biased"



"Looks as though his two backs had another misunderstanding"

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INTRACHT Home	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	
INTRACHT Away	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	
BAHRAIN	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	Large
LEEDS Home	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	Large
LEEDS Away	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	Large
WALES Home	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	Large
SAUDI ARABIA	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	Large
SHEFFIELD Home	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	Large
LEICESTER Home	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	Large
LEICESTER Away	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	Large
WEST HAM Home	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	Large
ENGLAND Home	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	Large
SINGAPORE Away	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	Large
INDONESIA Away	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	Large

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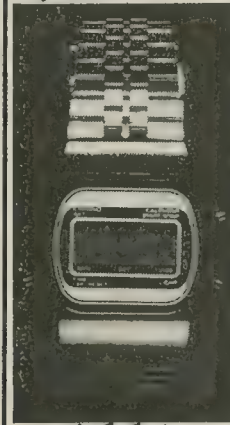
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ROWS AND RESIGNATIONS AT BAYERN

BAYERN Munich, triple European Cup winners during the Seventies, has been ripped apart by internal problems. The once proud Bavarian club has never really recovered from the departure of Franz Beckenbauer, and recent events underline the sorry state of the German outfit.

When Beckenbauer left for his fistful of dollars, general manager Robert Schwan was sacked because he helped Franz move to the Cosmos. Then, coach Dettmar Cramer was "sent away". His successor was Gyula Lorant, but he didn't last very long.

Earlier this season there was another change when Pal Csernai was appointed. It's not been a good season for Bayern and club president Wilhelm Neudecker engaged the controversial Austrian Max Merkel as coach.

The Bayern players were fed up with his "fierce" methods and all 16 players of the first team squad voted against Merkel, preferring Csernai to stay on.

Neudecker resigned and to show their strength (and, perhaps, bit-

terness) Bayern played as never before and incredibly won 7-1 in Mönchengladbach. Borussia's morale was hardly boosted by the announcement of their coach, Udo Lattek, three hours before kick-off that he was leaving at the end of the season... to return to Bayern, the rumours say.

Many Germans were disgusted Bayern needed such motivation to play so well... that it is wrong for highly-paid professionals to prefer to prove someone wrong rather than play at the same level for their fans each week.

The leaders of the Bayern Revolt are Sepp Maier and Paul Breitner (seen here, right, after their victory against Borussia). Maier paid the price by losing his place in the West Germany side against Turkey. Manager Jupp Derwall said he "wasn't in the right emotional state to play."

Bayern's future is uncertain. Their former international midfielder Uli Hoeness is due to become the club's general manager next week, but at the moment the atmosphere in Munich is not good.



WORLD WIDE

COMPILED BY CHRIS DAVIES

FORMER West Germany star Uwe Seeler won't forget this winter in a hurry. Driving home to Hamburg, his car became stuck in the snow 15 miles from his home. He managed to work himself out of his vehicle and crawl into a nearby truck, where there were several other stranded drivers.

They all had to spend the night in the back of the truck and Seeler described the experience as "my coldest night ever."

IN SPAIN, two fans interrupted the televised match between Real Sociedad and Real Zaragoza for nearly five minutes when they ran on to the pitch carrying a political banner. Police only managed to catch one of the offenders, who was subsequently fined £700. Officials at the club feel they have been hard-done-by, because Real Sociedad have also been fined £3,500 for "allowing" the youngsters on to the pitch!

PELE COMEBACK?

THERE are rumours Pele may come out of retirement as player-manager for a side in Cape Town. Kevin Lewis, municipal councillor for Cape Town, said the city is trying to get financial support from two leading South African firms. If successful, Pele (they say) has given his word that he will do in South Africa what he did for soccer in the United States.

BRAZIL STAR ALMOST FIT AGAIN

REINALDO, Brazil's World Cup centre-forward for the early games last year, who was thought to be finished with football is back. He has had all four cartilages removed and in his first full training session earlier this month since Argentina kicked a ball and said: "This is a very emotional moment for me. It's like scoring an important goal in a Cup Final before a full house."

"I've had eight months of suffering but now I hope to regain my place in the national side and wipe out the nightmare of the World Cup."

Brazilian observers say Reinaldo is looking very good and needs only physical fitness to be his old self again.

DUTCHMAN Kees Bregman, who plays for MSV Duisburg in West Germany, has written off his ninth car! Number ten is a Jaguar.

FORMER Ajax star Gerrie Mühren, brother of Ipswich's Arnold, is leaving Spanish club Real Betis at the end of the season to return to Holland and play for his home town side Volendam.



FORMER Yugoslav winger Dragan Dzajic, now 32, is retiring and hopes to play his last game against a European XI.

WALES BEWARE...

THE fact Malta scored their first away goal in competitive football since 1962 in their 1-2 defeat in Turkey isn't likely to give Wales manager Mike Smith sleepless nights. Yet when Wales go to Malta for a European Championship tie in June, they could be in for a shock.

There is a new air of optimism in Malta spurred by the 0-0 draw with West Germany and their fighting display in Turkey. The Maltese don't have another game until they play Wales, so confidence will be high and the crowd will be very much behind them.

Wales crushed Malta 7-0 last October in Wrexham, yet since then the Maltese coach Victor Scerri has worked a minor miracle. He is serious when he says: "Not only do I think we can beat Turkey and Wales when they come here, but I want to finish third in the group."

Even West Germany manager Jupp Derwall concedes Malta could decide Group Seven.

It's never been easy to win on Malta's sandy pitch, with its uneven surface, but Wales could find it even harder than usual in June.

...NO SURPRISE

STATISTICIANS weren't too surprised when West Germany only drew 0-0 in Malta in February, as February hasn't been a good month for the Germans in the past. Of 11 internationals played in that month only four have been won (against Albania, Morocco, Malta and England last year), two drawn and five lost (against England in 1966, Spain twice, Argentina and France).

● Rainer Bonhof's free-kick is saved by the Malta 'keeper.



NASL MANAGERS

THE new North American Soccer League has just got under way. There are still 24 clubs, with two outfits changing homes. The Colorado Caribous are now the Atlanta Chiefs and the Oakland Stompers the Edmonton Drillers. A name change is the Toronto Metros are now called the Toronto Blizzard.



Detroit's Ken Furphy and son Keith.

The 24 managers are: Atlanta — Dan Wood; California — John Sewell; Chicago — Willy Roy; Dallas — Al Miller; Detroit — Ken Furphy; Edmonton — Hans Kraay; Ft. Lauderdale — Ron Newman; Houston — Timo Liekoski; Los Angeles — Rinus Michels; Memphis — Eddie McCreadie; Minnesota — Roy McCrohan; New England — Noel Cantwell; New York — Eddie Firmani; Philadelphia — Marko Valok; Portland — Don Megson; Rochester — Don Popovic; San Diego — Hubert Vogelsinger; San Jose — Terry Fisher; Seattle — Jimmy Gabriel; Tampa — Gordon Jago; Toronto — Keith Eddy; Tulsa — Alan Hinton; Vancouver — Tony Waiters; Washington — Gordon Bradley.

WHITER THAN WHITE

THERE were some almost farcical scenes of disarray as Argentina's Metropolitan Championship got under way. The match between Gimnasia y Esgrima and Platense started 21 minutes late because the club had forgotten to mark out the pitch.

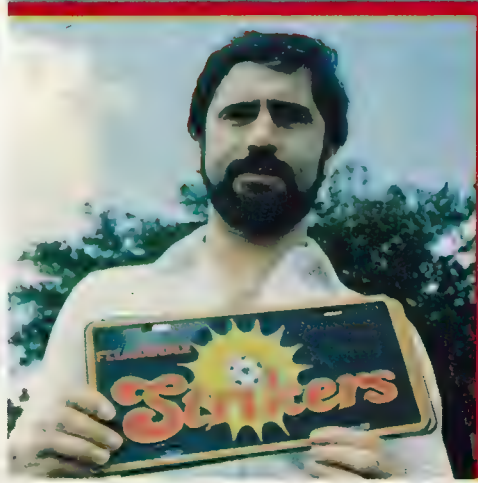
And in the match between All Boys and Colon, the visitors decided to change their muddy shirts at half-time and inexplicably ran out for the second-half wearing the same colour shirts as the home team. The referee definitely wasn't amused, and he wasn't happy about the white numbers on the home team's shirts either. The shirts were also white.

Meanwhile, newly-promoted Ferro Carril Oeste were capturing the attention by notching impressive wins against the country's top two teams, Independiente and Boca Juniors, in their first two fixtures.

And seven players and two managers were shown the red card in the opening matches.

DER BOMBER HITS FORT LAUDE

GERD Müller, one of Europe's last Superstars of the Seventies, has joined the long list of players who have hit the dollar trail to the United States. Der Bomber, as he is known, has signed for the Fort Lauderdale Strikers where he will link up with Northern Ireland's George Best and Peru's Teófilo Cubillas.



ABOVE . . . Gerd with his wife, Uschi, on the beach at Fort Lauderdale. The temperature in Florida is just about perfect with sunshine all the year round — a great place to play football and ideal for Müller's family.
LEFT . . . We've been plagued by strikes over here this winter, but Müller plans to do his share of striking in a somewhat different fashion!

ERDALE

Müller ended his long career with Bayern Munich after a row with the coach; but even at 33 Gerd was still scoring regularly. He isn't playing for the Strikers at the moment, but the Müllers recently went to the South Florida resort to look over the club and their new home. SHOOT was there, too . . .



ABOVE . . . Gerd meets the other Strikers.

LEFT . . . The Strikers' strikers, a truly international goal-force. Gerd with George Best and Teófilo Cubillas, and Müller's new shirt. Note the American spelling of his name.



SHOOT!

'Durban's got the Cloughie touch'

SAMMY Irvine, Stoke City's £60,000 midfield close season signing from Shrewsbury, has played in all Divisions of the Football League — except the First. Next term the 23-year-old Glaswegian's dream could be fulfilled as Stoke head for the top flight.

"My ambition has always been to play in a higher grade," says Sammy. "Last season I was playing well and I scored a few goals. There was talk of me moving to a First Division club, but nothing ever materialised. In a way it worried me. I began to think I would never make the break.



"I feel I am lucky with Alan Durban being manager at Stoke. He knew my character and the type of skills I possessed. Money wise there was no risk attached because he knew everything about me.

"I think there are managers higher up who are scared to pay out for a lower Division player. They're not quite sure about him by just watching, and that's why many lads in the Third never move up.

"Alan was sure because we'd played together in midfield at Shrewsbury. He gained promotion for us from the Fourth and we struck up a good partnership in the Third.

"I'd admired him as a player and I'd worked under him as a manager. He was the biggest influence on my joining Stoke. I always thought he would do well. He's very ambitious and I was sure we'd be in with a chance of promotion. It was also a step up the ladder for me and obviously I was only too pleased to re-join him.

"If a First Division club had come in, then I might have thought twice. Blackpool was the only other club I had talks with."

Sammy arrived at Shrewsbury straight from school as a 15-year-old and made over 200 appearances in six years at Gay Meadow. He made his debut at 17 in a home game against Scunthorpe.

His first game for Stoke came in the opening match of the season against newly promoted Cambridge United. "Although it was a hard game, it was a blessing in disguise," he says. "I'd played at Cambridge a couple of times in the Third. I never felt overawed or anything like that. Maybe, if it had been at West Ham, I might have found it difficult.

"I've settled in well at The Victoria Ground

— Sammy Irvine (Stoke)

and, obviously, the players here have helped me a great deal. There are some tremendous performers, especially Howard Kendall in midfield. If you can play with someone of his calibre, then it's something special. I've always looked upon him as a great player and I never imagined two years ago I would be playing alongside him.

"We've a glorious link up in midfield. Kendall is the inspiration. He's always willing to take the ball at any time, and in our 4-3-3 system Paul Richardson, who has seen service at Nottingham Forest, complements the trio.

"Mike Doyle and Denis Smith are at the back. I don't think there's a better pair in the country for experience.

"Goalkeeper Roger Jones has been brilliant without ever being noticed. And that's about the best thing you can say because most people only seem to notice a goalie when he's really bad.

"Up-front you can float anything into the box for big Brendan O'Callaghan and he'll win it. He knocks the ball down for Garth Crooks and newcomer from Bristol Rovers, Paul Randall."

Sammy likes to think of himself as a typical hard working midfielder man, who ventures forward at every opportunity. "I've never been a prolific goalscorer," he says, "but I like to get my share.

"Manager Alan Durban does have this Clough tag, which is only natural, considering he was with him for such a long time. I'm sure he emulates the Forest boss here at Stoke. It's not a bad thing really, because I think Brian Clough is one of the best in the country, anyway."

When David Fairclough didn't like playing for Liverpool

FINANCIERS need to make money. Business men need to make profits. Striker David Fairclough needs to score goals.

"If I'm not scoring, I'm not happy. It's not that I think there is nothing else to football but scoring. It's a standard I've set myself and I just have to live up to it. If I haven't scored in a particular game, I lie awake at night reliving the match, trying to find out where I went wrong.

"Even if we lose 1-2, I like to score the one. But there is nothing like scoring the only goal of the match, which wins the game for your side. That happened to me as a raw youngster once or twice in my first season."

It is little wonder, with that driving ambition, that David Fairclough gained a reputation for being the "reserve who won matches". For an hour he would sit on the substitutes' bench, itching to be in the middle of the action. Then, as a slim, red-headed youngster, he would trot on the pitch and, within minutes, put the ball in the net.

"Yet, it was not always my ambition to become a professional

footballer. I wouldn't have been a true Liverpoolian if I hadn't been mad on the game, but my family valued education highly. They always stressed the importance of being well educated, and at different times I wanted to become a journalist and a teacher.

"I used to set educational standards for myself and was disappointed if I did not achieve them. I'm still saddened by my GCE results. I reckon I didn't score there either. Funnily enough, while my parents encouraged me to study, my junior school headmaster wanted me to play football. It was a healthy combination.

"One Saturday, I arrived home after playing for the school and my mother told me a Liverpool scout had been to the house asking to see me. 'What a pity,' I said, 'I scored four goals this afternoon. That might have impressed him.'

"But all went well and I signed schoolboy forms. The school had

to countersign and they had misgivings about me preferring soccer to schooling. My father, too, still thought it was important to study. Eventually, football won. I signed as an apprentice for Liverpool.

"Six months later, I signed pro forms, and that usually takes a year and a half from the start of an apprenticeship. It seemed that the world was at my feet."

But getting into the Liverpool first team isn't easy in any position. In the case of David Fairclough, it meant displacing such a seasoned campaigner as Steve Heighway, a daunting prospect for any youngster. After a run of ten goals in 16 Central League games, in November, 1975, David Fairclough's chance came.

"I still remember the boss telling me Stevie was injured and I was in the side. 'Just play your natural game', was all he said. What more could a keen youngster ask than to be given such freedom? The match was against Middlesbrough away and I didn't score.

"The next game was even more memorable, a European tie against Real Sociedad. That was a real baptism of fire, even though we were at home. I began as sub and had a chance to soak up the atmosphere before being called on to the pitch. Then I achieved the dream of every Liverpool lad — I scored in front of the Kop. I have never heard a noise like it. No wonder they say the Kop is worth a goal start to us."

David's first League goal came against Norwich and was followed by two in the match against Burn-

ley, when he again replaced Heighway. But the most memorable of those early goals was the one against arch rivals, Everton. It won the match for Liverpool.

"There's nothing like scoring the winning goal. To do it at the age of 19 for Liverpool against Everton is just unbelievable. What made it really memorable is that it was an individual goal."

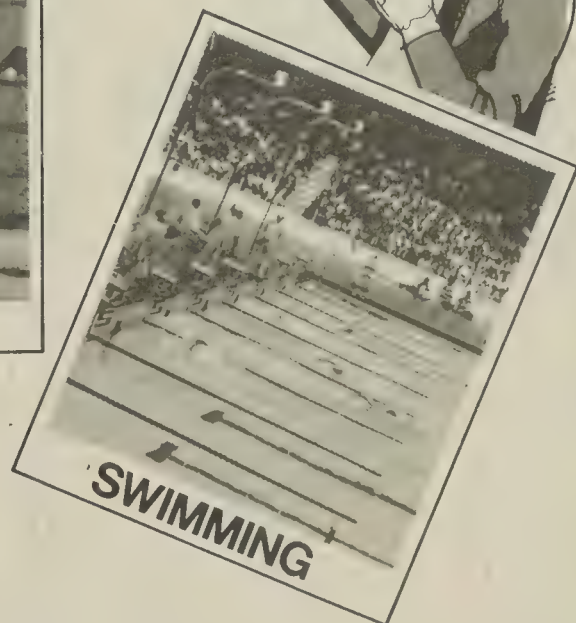
This season his form deserted him and he asked to be dropped into the reserves to regain confidence and become sharp again. Now, after a run of 17 goals, he is back in the first team squad and raring to go again and to get back into goalscoring form there, too.



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ONE good thing about my recent spell out of action — it gave me the opportunity to sit down, sort through your letters, and send off another batch of autographed photos.

Although I left Manchester United a year ago, I still receive mail from Reds' fans. Most ask if I ever regret leaving United.

Sometimes, especially at the moment, I'd love to be appearing at Wembley again.

Mostly I miss the atmosphere, tradition and passion of the fans. With all due respect to Derby County supporters, for my money United have the best following in the country.

Unfortunately, Dave Sexton made it clear there was very little future for me at Old Trafford.

He felt I wasn't pulling my weight in the team and wanted me to defend as well as attack and get my 20 goals-a-season.

I tried to adapt my style but couldn't play the way Mr. Sexton wanted.

I doubt if Mr. Sexton would make an offer for me, Adrian, so a move back to Old Trafford is very unlikely.

And, sorry, there's no way I'm going to let my Cup Final shirt go. It's one of my prized possessions. As you can imagine I get hundreds of similar requests for jerseys. To satisfy them all I'd need an endless supply of shirts and England caps.

When I visited SHOOT's offices recently, Chris Davies, the man who compiles the excellent World Wide feature, argued that Derby are in serious relegation trouble.

Chris expressed the same fears as several Rams' fans I've heard from — that Derby could go down.

I get annoyed at these suggestions and I'll repeat the message I spelled out in a recent column... **THERE IS NO WAY DERBY WILL BE RELEGATED!**

In fact, the prospect hasn't even been discussed at the club, either by the players or manager Tommy Docherty.

"Has the recent controversy sur-

rounding Tommy Docherty upset the team spirit at Derby?" asks Martin Usher from Chesterfield.

No, Martin. Obviously none of the lads have even mentioned The Doc's personal problems. They're not our concern.

On the contrary, I believe the adverse publicity has made the team play harder. The lads seemed determined not to allow Tommy's troubles to affect them.

"Who are your particular mates at Derby?" asks Bill Berry, who lives in Sunderland.

I'm friendly with all the lads at the Baseball Ground, Bill. There's a warmer atmosphere here.

I suppose the reason is because Derby is a much smaller outfit than United so you are made to feel part of one happy family.

I suppose my closest buddy is Steve Wicks, our recent buy from Chelsea. He's a Londoner like myself and we share the same interests, speak the same language and enjoy the same jokes.



'WHAT I MISS ABOUT UNITED'

And as I didn't get along with some of the other players we decided a transfer was the best for all concerned.

Amazingly, a year later Mr. Sexton has said in a newspaper article he might have been wrong in trying to change United's style. The cavalier approach which had brought the club so much praise was maybe the right one for the club.

Anyhow, I've no wish to open old wounds. I certainly hope United win the Cup Final and go on to achieve the success such a club deserves.

Cath Hayward, who lives in Tongham, Surrey, wants to know how my former team-mate at United Steve Coppell reacts to criticism.

I got on well with "Popper", Cath. He's a great professional who takes the game very seriously.

I can't say I ever remember him being bothered by the critics.

You mentioned the Scotland/England match at Hampden Park last year when Ally MacLeod described Steve as "the worst player on the field."

That was an unfair remark by the then Scotland boss. I didn't think anyone played particularly well that afternoon.

As far as I know, Popper, who scored the only goal of the match just laughed off Ally's remarks.

Adrian Ng, a lad I met in Malaysia during the England B tour last summer, wants to know if I would play for Manchester United again — and if I could send him the shirt I wore in the 1977 F.A. Cup Final, when we beat Liverpool 2-1.



my soccer scene
GORDON HILL

David McKellar, making his Derby debut, fists clear against Arsenal.

"You are quite a joker, Gordon," writes Derek Cooper who lives in my home town of Sunbury-on-Thames, "and usually have nicknames for your team-mates. Any special ones for the Derby lads?"

Not really, Derek. Our young striker Andy Crawford is called "limmy" because he resembles the great Jimmy Greaves, and physiotherapist Gordon Guthrie is "Fritz".

Why? Because he's so tough in training we reckon he's learned some of his methods from the Gestapo Handbook for 1940.

Keith Lang is a West Ham supporter from Leytonstone in East London and writes: "The Hammers badly need a winger to provide the service for Bryan Robson and David Cross. You would be ideal for the job. If West Ham could afford the estimated £400,000 plus transfer fee would you like to play for us?"

I've always had a soft spot for West Ham, Keith, and would certainly consider any move back to London... but not at present.

As I said a few weeks ago, I'm happy at Derby at the moment and determined to help them fight their way to a respectable position in the First Division.

Roger Cormack from Heston is keen to know what I consider my best goal for Derby.

Gordon has happy memories of his career at Old Trafford.

Well, because of my injury problems there haven't been many goals to speak of, Roger. But I'll never forget my first goal for the club on my debut last April against Arsenal, a couple of days after their F.A. Cup Final defeat by Ipswich Town.

Bruce Rioch hit one from outside the box. Pat Jennings parried the ball and I came in and whacked it back into the net on the volley. It was Derby's first goal in their 3-0 victory at the Baseball Ground.

Roger's letter brings me nicely on to Saturday's (April 21st) home League match against 1979 F.A. Cup finalists Arsenal.

Rams lost 2-0 at Highbury this season, just before Christmas.

The one bright spot for Derby that dismal afternoon was the form of our young 'keeper David McKellar making his debut.

Defeat was no fault of his. But for David's inspired display County would have suffered a far heavier setback.

I certainly expect Derby to be in better form this weekend against an Arsenal side with Wembley very much on their minds.

Cheers for now — and keep those letters coming. I assure you I do read every one, although it's impossible for me to answer them all personally.

Gordon Hill

GOAL~LINES

Send your letters to STEVE CARTER, GOAL-LINES, SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford St., London SE1 9LS. £3 for the Star letter — £1.50 for every other letter published.

When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from Jens Knudsen of Odense in Denmark, who wins our Special Prize of £3. He writes:

MORE LONG-RANGE SHOTS

EVERY Saturday afternoon when I've heard details of the English League games on Sports Report, I turn on my television to watch the round-up of the West German Bundesliga matches. In the winter, we also see an English game live, so comparisons are inevitable.

One big difference is the way in which goals are scored. English goals are usually close-range efforts, while the Germans often score from 30 yards. You rarely see a British player even TRY from such a range. The exception is Liam Brady (below) of Arsenal, who scores quite a few of his goals from outside the penalty-area.

I think English football would be more entertaining with these long-range shots. Do you?



● The English game is lacking in players who can successfully convert such chances, although we have seen a few thunderbolt specials. I also think our 'keepers are, generally speaking, too good to be caught out from long range.

Mockery

WHAT a mockery Football League officialdom makes of things. They refused to allow Nottingham Forest's joint managers to lead the team out at Wembley, and on the same day had no one on duty to give a ruling on Stoke's protest at Sunderland's failure to fulfil a fixture. All the top brass were at the League Cup Final, of course.

Maybe snowed-in Sunderland

were absolutely correct not to risk life and limb on the bad roads, but one recalls an incident some years ago when Barrow (then in the Football League) were heavily fined after being stuck in a snow-drift.

D. LLOYD, WALSALL.

● I can remember several instances when it seems there's one law for the rich and one for the poor. For one reason or another, all 92 clubs aren't treated the same; too often the smaller clubs have been punished more severely than First Division clubs for the same offence.

April Fool

THE article on Lirpo Afol in World Wide (April 7th) was surely a put-on! If you change the letters of the name, it makes April Fool, and the island he hails from, Renowhe, makes nowhere! I must admit you had me interested, though.

R. WEAKE, HALESOWEN.

● Yes, a lot of readers spotted our April Fool's joke. Not many knew the photo of 'Lirpo' was actually SHOOT's Chris Davies, though!

Naive Fans

AS a fan from a country where we don't even have professional soccer — Norway — I must express my astonishment over the extremely superficial knowledge the English football public shows about the game it so enthusiastically follows.

Although they have great tradition and the best clubs in the world, the fans' relationship with the game is naive. Lack of understanding of the laws leads to unfair criticism of both players and officials.

Of course, a lot of this occurs in other countries, but I've found it strongest in England.

N. BARALDSNES, HUDDERSFIELD.

● I've seen soccer in many places and I've yet to hear home fans agree with a decision against their team. All fans are naturally biased, which comes with the fervent support they give. After the match things are different, but in the atmosphere of the game it's hard to be rational.

Pen-Pal

I'M a 15-year-old Danish boy and I want to correspond with fans all over the world. I support Manchester United and Borussia Mönchengladbach.

NIELS KREISHOLT, SKOLEGADE 7, 4200 SLAGELSE, DENMARK.

RESULTS... SCORERS... TEAM LINE-UPS

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

THIRD DIVISION

Continued

PETERBOROUGH (0) 2 (Guy 2)
SWANSEA (0) 0 5,550
 Peterborough: Waugh; Hindley, Robson, Doyle, Smith, Ross, Carmichael (Cliss), McEwan, Cooke, Guy, Anderson.
 Swansea: Crudgington; Evans, Bartley, Morris, Stevenson, Marustik (Reeves), Attley, James, Curtis, Waddle, Callaghan.

SWINDON 0
CARLISLE 0 8,386
 Swindon: Allan; Hamilton, Ford, McHale, Aizlewood, Stroud, Miller (Bates), Carter, Rowland, Mayes, Kamara.
 Carlisle: Swinburne; Hoolickin, McCartney, MacDonald, Tait, Parker, McVitie, Bonnyman, Ludlam, Kemp, McLean (Hamilton).

WALSALL (0) 0
SHEFF. WED (1) 2 (Lowe, Hornsby) 5,120
 Walsall: Turner; Harrison, Caswell, Jones, Serella, Sbragia, Birch, Waddington (S), Austin, King, Macken (McDonough).
 Sheff. W: Turner; Shirliff, Rushbury, Mullen, Pickering, Johnson, Wyld, Porterfield, Leman, Lowe, Hornsby.

FOURTH DIVISION

ALDERSHOT (2) 3 (Dungworth, Brodie, Needham)
CREWE (0) 0 3,947
 Aldershot: Johnson; Howitt, Edwards, Longhorn, Youlender, Jopling, Crosby, Brodie (Dixon), Needham, Dungworth, McGregor.
 Crewe: Rafferty; Wilkinson, Dulson, Purdie, Bowles, Bevan, Davies, Roberts, Cheetham, Warnock, Robertson.

BARNLEY (1) 1 (Clarke)
NEWPORT (0) 0 9,428
 Barnley: Springett; Chambers, Collins, Pugh, Saunders, McCarthy, Little, Clarke, Graham, Millar, Bell.
 Newport: Plumley; Warriner, Byrne (Relish), Davies, Oakes, Bruton, Bailey, Lowndes, Goddard, Tynan, Moore.

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 (MacDougall)
HALIFAX (0) 0 3,078
 Bournemouth: Allen; Cunningham, Miller, Impey, Brown (R), Borthwick, Holder, MacDougall, Scott, Lennard, Johnson.
 Halifax: Kilner; Radley, Dunleavy; Smith, Trainer, Burke, Firth, Kennedy, Mountford, Johnson, Loska (Hutt).

HEREFORD (0) 0
GRIMSBY (1) 1 (Price o.g.) 2,939
 Hereford: Hughes; Price, Burrows, Cornes, Layton, Emery, Powell, Hendry, Gould, Spiring, Feeley.
 Grimsby: Batch; Moore (D), Moore (K), Waters, Wigginton, Croonbie, Broly, Ford, Drinkell, Mitchell, Cumming.

HUDDERSFIELD 0
BRADFORD C 0 6,188
 Huddersfield: Starling; Brown, Branagan, Holmes, Hanvey, Sutton, Cowling (Bielby), Hart, Fletcher, Robins, Howey.
 Bradford: Downsborough; Reaney, Podd, Johnson, Baines, Wood, Robertson, Dolan, Cook, McNiven, Hutchins.

NORTHAMPTON (1) 2 (Froggatt, Bryant)
WIGAN (3) 4 (Brownbill 2, Pudie, Corrigan) 2,275
 Northampton: Jayes; Geidmintis, Mead, Woollett, Robertson, Bryant, Farrington (Ashenden), Saunders, Froggatt, Reilly, McCaffrey.
 Wigan: Brown; Smart, Hinnigan, Gore, Ward, Fratwell, Corrigan (Crompton), Wright, Moore, Brownbill, Purdie.

PORTSMOUTH (0) 1 (Showers)
TORQUAY (0) 0 8,689
 Portsmouth: Mellor; Ellis, Viney, Denyer, Foster, Davey, Garwood, Lathan, Showers, Barnard, Hemmerman.
 Torquay: Turner; Darke (Coffill), Ritchie, Twitchin, Payne, Dunne, Raper, Wilson, Lawrence, Murphy, Davis.

PORT VALE (0) 2 (Hawkins, Beech)
DARLINGTON (0) 1 (Ferguson) 2,566
 Port Vale: Dance; Keenan, Griffiths, Beech, Sproson, Hawkins, Farrell, Sinclair, Wright, Todd, Healy.
 Darlington: Burleigh; Hague, Cochrane, Natress, Craig, Stone, Taylor, Wann (Seal), Ferguson, Lyons, Walsh.

ROCHDALE (0) 1 (Hoy pen.)
HARTLEPOOL (1) 1 (Crumplin) 1,931
 Rochdale: Felgate; Creamer, Taylor, Scaife, Scott, Snookes, O'Loughlin, Hoy, Jones, Esser, Owen.
 Hartlepool: Richardson; Smith (G), Gorry, Lawrence, Brooks (Smith T.), Ayres, Linacre, Houchen, Crumplin, Goldthorpe, Loadwick.

SCUNTHORPE (2) 2 (Kilmore 2 pens)
YORK (1) 3 (Randall 2, Clements) 2,261
 Scunthorpe: Crawford; O'Donnell, Pilling, Oates, Deere, Czuczman, Grimes, Kilmore, Earl, Keeley, Kavanagh.
 York: Neenan; Kay, Walsh, Pugh, Faulkner, Clements, Ford, Randall, Loggie, McDonald, Stanforth.

SCOTTISH CUP

Quarter-Finals

ABERDEEN (1) 1 (Harper)
CELTIC (1) 1 (Doyle) 26,000
 Aberdeen: Clarke; Kennedy, McLelland, McMaster, McLeish, Miller, Sullivan, Archibald, Harper, Scanlon (Davidson), Strachan.
 Celtic: Latchford; McGrain, Lynch, Aitken, MacDonald, Edvaldsson, Provan, McLeod, Conn, Burns, Doyle.

DUMBARTON (0) 0
PARTICK (0) 1 (Anderson) 7,000
 Dumbarton: Hunter; Sinclair, McNeil, McCluskey, Gallagher (J), Coyle, Brown, Gallagher (B), Blair, Sharp, Whiteford.
 Partick: Rough; McKinnon, Whittaker, Campbell, Marr, Anderson, Houston, Somner, Park, McAdam, Gibson (O'Hara).

HIBS (1) 2 (Stewart, Rae)
HEARTS (0) 1 (O'Connor) 22,618
 Hibs: McArthur; Brazil, Duncan, Bremner, Stewart, McNamara, Rae, MacLeod, Hutchinson, Callachan, Higgins.
 Hearts: Brough; Brown, Black, Liddell, Jafferis, Craig, Gibson (Shaw), Kidd, O'Connor, Busby, (McQuade), Robertson.

RANGERS (5) 6 (Jardine pen., MacDonald, Smith, Forsyth, Russell, Cooper)
DUNDEE (2) 3 (McLaren 2, Pirie) 26,000
 Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Dawson (Forsyth A.), Denny, Forsyth (T), MacDonald; McLean, Russell, Urquhart, Smith, Cooper.
 Dundee: Donaldson; Barr, Schaedler, McLaren, Glennie, Watson, Lamb, Sinclair, Pirie, Shirra, Murphy (Redford).



Southampton's David Peach scored from the spot in their 2-1 F.A. Cup win over West Brom.

SCOTTISH PREMIER

DUNDEE UTD (3) 4 (Sturrock 2, Stark, Kirkwood)
MORTON (1) 1 (Stark o.g.) 6,033
 Dundee U: McAlpine; Stewart, Stark, Phillip (Rayne), Hegarty, Narey, Holt, Sturrock, Dods, Fleming, Kirkwood (Addison).
 Morton: Barines; Hayes, Holmes, Anderson, Orr, Rooney (McLaren), McNeill, Miller (Evans), Thomson, Scott, Ritchie.

MOTHERWELL (0) 0
ST. MIRREN (2) 3 (McGarvey 3) 4,795
 Motherwell: Rennie; McLeod, Kennedy, Smith (Wilson), Dempsey, Stevens, Rafferty (Larnach), Pettigrew, Sommerville, Clinging, Donnelly.
 St Mirren: Thomson; Young, Munro, Fitzpatrick, Dunlop, Copland, Richardson, Stark, Bone, Abercrombie McGarvey.

MONDAY, MARCH 12

F.A. CUP

Fifth Round replay

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 2 (Peach pen., Boyer)
W.B.A. (0) 1 (Cunningham) a.e.t. 25,000
 Southampton: Gennoe; Golac, Peach, Williams, Nicholl, Waldron, Ball, Boyer, Hayes, Holmes, Curran.
 W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Brown (T), Wile, Robertson, Treweek, Brown (A), Regis (Johnston), Mills, Cunningham.

THIRD DIVISION

MANSFIELD (1) 5 (Syrett 2, Carter 2, Hamilton)
PLYMOUTH (0) 0 4,325
 Mansfield: New; Dawkins, Foster (B), Curtis, Saxby (M), Bird, Hamilton, Carter, Syrett (Allen), Martin, Miller.
 Plymouth: Hodge; Harrison, McNeill, Clarke, James, Bason, Johnson, Megson, Binney, Trussion, Rogers.

SOUTHELD (1) 1 (Morris)
CARLISLE (0) 1 (Tait) 5,457
 Southend: Cawston; Moody, Yates, Stead, hadly, Cussack, Morris, Abbott (Laverick), Parker, Dudley, Fell.
 Carlisle: Swinburne; Hoolickin, McCartney, MacDonald, Tait, Parker, McVitie, Bonnyman, Ludlam, Kemp, MacLean.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

F.A. CUP

Sixth Round replay

SHREWSBURY (0) 1 (Keay)
WOLVES (1) 3 (Carr, Rafferty, Daniel pen.) 15,279
 Shrewsbury: Wardle; Hayes, Leonard, Turner, Griffin, Keay, Chapman, Atkins, Tong, Biggins, Maguire.
 Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, McAile, Berry, Hibbitt, Daley, Rafferty, Richards, Carr.

FIRST DIVISION

IPSWICH (1) 1 (Muhren)
COVENTRY (0) 1 (Thompson) 16,095
 Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Mills, Thijssen, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Gates, Woods.
 Coventry: Sealey; Coop, McDonald (Green), Yorath, Holton, Hagan, Roberts, Wallace, Thompson, Blair, Hutchison.

LIVERPOOL (1) 1 (Dalglish)
EVERTON (0) 1 (King) 52,352
 Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Hughes, Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Johnson (Fairclough), Case, McDermott, Souness.
 Everton: Wood; Todd, Heard, Lyons, Wright, Ross, King, Dobson, Latchford, Telfer, Thomas.

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 3 (Boam, Armstrong, Burns)
DERBY (0) 1 (Daly pen.) 16,286
 Middlesbrough: Platt; Craggs, Johnson, Mahoney, Boam, McAndrew, Hodgson, Proctor, Ashcroft, Burns, Armstrong.
 Derby: McKellar; Langan, Buckley, Daly, Webb, Wilks, Greenwood, Powell, Caskey, Crawford, Moreland.

SECOND DIVISION

BURNLEY (1) 2 (Noble 2, 1 pen.)
LUTON (0) 1 (Haton) 8,000
 Burnley: Stevenson; Scott, Brennan, Noble, Thomson, Rodaway, Jakub, Robinson (Hall), Fletcher, Kindon, James.
 Luton: Findlay; Stephens, Aizlewood, Donaghy, Turner, Hill, West, Carr, Taylor, Hatton, Stein.

NOTTS CO (1) 4 (Vinter 3, McCulloch)
SHEFF. UTD (0) 1 (Brown) 10,372
 Notts Co: McManus; Richards, O'Brien, Blockley, Stubbs, Mann, McCulloch, Masson, Hooks, Hunt, Vinter.
 Sheff. U: Conroy; Cutbush, Garner, Kenworthy, Speight, Matthews, Flood (Anderson), Guy, Brown, Sabella, Hamson.
 Postponed: Millwall v Leicester.

THIRD DIVISION

HULL (0) 1 (Stewart)
COLCHESTER (0) 0 4,201
 Hull: Blackburn; Nisbet, Skipper, Hawker, Croft, Haigh, Roberts, Horswill, Edwards, Bannister, Stewart.
 Colchester: Walker; Cook, Wright, Hodge, Wignall, Gough, Packer, Foley, Dyer, Lee (Downman), Allinson.

SHEFF. WED (1) 1 (Wyde)
BRENTFORD (0) 0 10,229
 Sheff. W: Turner; Shirliff, Rushbury, Mullen, Pickering, Johnson, Wyld, Porterfield, Leman (Owen), Lowe, Hornsby.
 Brentford: Bond, Salman, Tucker, McNichol, Kruse, Graham, Carlton, Shrubbs, Smith (Allder), Glover, Phillips.

WALSALL (0) 4 (Penn, Austin, Birch, Sbragia)
LINCOLN (0) 1 (Harford) 2,794
 Walsall: Turner; Macken, Jones, King, Serella, Sbragia, Birch, Waddington, Austin, McDonough (Kelly), Penn.
 Lincoln: Grotier; Guest, Leigh (Harford), Fleming, Cross, Hubbard, Hobson, Ward, Sunley, Cockerill, Watson.

FOURTH DIVISION

BARNLEY (1) 4 (Graham 3, McCarthy)
SCUNTHORPE (0) 1 (Grimes) 9,308
 Barnley: Springett; Collins, Chambers, Pugh, Saunders, McCarthy, Little, Clarke, Graham, Millar, Bell.
 Scunthorpe: Crawford; O'Donnell, Pilling, Oates, Deere, Czuczman, Grimes, Kilmore, Gibson, Kavanagh, Keeley.

BRADFORD C (0) 2 (Baines, McNiven)
READING (1) 3 (Kearns, Kearney, Earles) 3,387
 Bradford C: Downsborough; Reaney, Wood, Johnson (Martinez), Baines, Middleton, Robertson, Dolan, Cook, McNiven, Bates.
 Reading: Death; Peters, White, Hetzke, Hicks, Bennett, Earles, Kearney, Kearns, Wanklyn (Sanchez), Lewis.

CREWE (0) 0
NEWPORT (0) 1 (Tynan) 1,459
 Crewe: Rafferty; Wilkinson (Nelson), Dulson, Purdie, Bowles, Bevan, Davies, Roberts, Coyne, Warnock, Robertson.
 Newport: Plumley; Walden, Relish, Davies, Oakes, Bruton, Bailey, Lowndes, Goddard, Tynan, Moore.

HARTLEPOOL (0) 1 (Linacre)
STOCKPORT (0) 3 (Henson, Halford, Park) 2,403
 Hartlepool: Richardson; Smith (G), Gorry, Lawrence, Smith (T), Ayre, Linacre, Goldthorpe (Hogan), Crumplin, Houchen, Loadwick.
 Stockport: Lawson; Thorpe, Rutter, Edwards, Park, Fogarty, Henson, Smith, Bradd, Prudham, Halford.

HUDDERSFIELD (1) 2 (Fletcher, Armstrong)
BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 (Borthwick) 2,268
 Huddersfield: Starling; Brown, Branagan, Holmes, Hanvey, Sutton, Fletcher, Hart, Armstrong, Robins, Howey.
 Bournemouth: Allen; Cunningham, Miller, Impey, Brown (R), Holder, Borthwick, MacDougall, Scott, Lennard, Johnson (Massey).

NORTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Farrington)
PORT VALE (0) 0 1,572
 Northampton: Poole; Geidmintis, Saunders, Woollett, Robertson, Bryant, Farrington, Williams, Froggatt, Reilly, McCaffrey (Ashenden).



David Loggie netted one for York against Halifax.

Port Vale: Dance; Keenan, Griffiths, Beach, Delgado, Hawkins, Sinclair, Farrell, Wright, Todd, Healy.

ROCHDALE (2) 2 (Jones, Snookes)
GRIMSBY (2) 5 (Ford, Brolly, Liddell, Waters pen., Mitchell) 2,345

Rochdale: Felgate; Creamer, Taylor, Scaife, Scott (Collins), Snookes, Hoy, Owen, Jones, O'Loughlin, Esser.

Grimby: Batch; Moore (D), Moore (K), Waters, Wigginton, Crombie, Brolly, Ford, Liddell, Mitchell, Cumming.

YORK (1) 2 (Loggie, Staniforth)
HALIFAX (0) 0 2,196

York: Neenan; Kay, Walsh, Pugh, Faulkner, Clements, Ford, Randall, Loggie, McDonald, Staniforth.

Halifax: Kilner; Hutt, Dunleavy, Smith, Trainer, Burke, Firth, Kennedy, Nixon, Johnson, Bradley (Loska).

Postponed: Wimbledon v Darlington.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

F.A. CUP Sixth Round replay

MAN. UTD (1) 2 (Jordan, McIlroy)
TOTTENHAM (0) 0 54,510

Man. U: Bailey; Nicholl, Albiston, McIlroy, McQueen, Buchan, Coppell, Greenhoff (J), Jordan, Grimes, Thomas.

Tottenham: Kendall; Naylor, McAllister, Holmes, Lacy, Perryman, Pratt (Taylor), Ardiles, Jones, Hoddle, Villa.

FIRST DIVISION

NOTTM FOREST (0) 2 (Woodcock 2)
NORWICH (0) 1 (Fashanu) 24,046

Nottm F: Shilton; Barrett, Clark, McGovern, Lloyd, Needham, Francis, Gemmill, Birtles, Woodcock, Robertson.

Norwich: Hansbury; Bond, Evans, McGuire, Hoadley, Powell, Neighbour, Reeves, Fashanu, Robson, Peters.

W.B.A. (0) 1 (Brown, A.)
CHELSEA (0) 0 20,425

W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Brown (T), Wile, Robertson, Treweek, Brown (A), Regis, Mills, Cunningham.

Chelsea: Borota; Wilkins (G), Stride (Burnstead), Bannon, Sitton, Nutton, Docherty, Wilkins (R), Harris, Langley, Walker

SECOND DIVISION

BLACKBURN (0) 0
OLDHAM (2) 2 (Heaton, Stainrod) 8,367

Blackburn: Ramsbottom; Rathbone, Morley, Metcalfe, Keeley, Fazackerley, Brotherston, Garner, Radford, Birchenall, Wagstaffe (Craig). Oldham: MacDonnell; Wood, Edwards, Keegan, Hicks, Hurst, Blair, Stainrod, Young, Chapman, Heaton.

STOKE (2) 3 (Irvine, Crooks 2)
ORIENT (0) 1 (Mayo) 16,183

Stoke: Jones; Marsh, Scott, Kendall, Dodd, Doyle, Randall, Irvine, O'Callaghan, Crooks, Richardson.

Orient: Jackson; Fisher, Roffey, Grealish, Gray, Went, Whittle, Moores, Mayo, Hughton, Coates.

SUNDERLAND (1) 1 (Rostron)
C. PALACE (2) 2 (Hilaire, Cannon) 34,986

Sunderland: Siddall; Henderson, Bolton, Arnott, Clarke, Elliott, Chisholm, Rostron (Brown), Entwistle, Buckley, Rowell.

Palace: Burridge; Hinshelwood (Fenwick), Sansom, Kember, Cannon, Hazell, Nicholas, Murphy, Swindiehurst, Hilaire, Walsh.

THIRD DIVISION

CHESTER (0) 0
ROTHERHAM (1) 1 (Gwyther) 2,473

Chester: Lloyd; Nickass, Raynor, Storton, Jeffries, Oakes, Jones, Livermore, Edwards, Walker, Henderson.

Rotherham: McAllister; Forest, Breckin, Stancliffe, Green, Flynn, Finney, Phillips, Gwyther, Carr, Crawford.

CHESTERFIELD (0) 1 (Moss)
BLACKPOOL (1) 3 (Ronson 2, Kellow) 4,638

Chesterfield: Letheran; Tartt, Burton, Hunter, Cottam, Prohett, Kowalski, Moss, Fern, Salmons (Heppollette), Walker.

Blackpool: Hesford; Malone, Pashley, Thompson, Suddaby, McEwan, Kellow, Kerr, Spence, Ronson, Weston.

FOURTH DIVISION

WIGAN (2) 3 (Moore 2, Hinnigan)
TORQUAY (1) 1 (Lawrence) 5,722

Wigan: Browns; Smart, Hinnigan, Gore, Ward, Fretwell, Corrigan, Wright, Brownbill, Moore, Purdie.

Torquay: Turner; Darke, Ritchie, Twitchin, Payne, Dunne, Wilson (Coffill), Lawrence, Raper, Murphy, Davies.

SCOTTISH CUP Fifth Round replay

CELTIC (0) 1 (Lennox)
ABERDEEN (2) 2 (Davidson, Archibald) 37,000

Celtic: Latchford; McGrain, Lynch, Aitken, McDonald, Edvaldsson, Provan, McLeod, Conn (Lennox), Burns, Doyle.

Aberdeen: Clark; Kennedy, McLelland, McMaster, Rougvie, Miller, Sullivan, Archibald, Harper, Jarvie, Davidson.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

THIRD DIVISION

SOUTHEND (3) 5 (Stead, Polycarpou 2, Morris pen., Laverick) 3
SWINDON (0) 3 (Rowland, Mayes, Cawston o.g.) 4,303

Southend: Cawston; Moody, Yates, Stead, Hadley (Walker), Cusack, Morris, Polycarpou, Parker, Dudley, Laverick.

Swindon: Allan; Hamilton, Ford, McHale, Aislewood, Stroud, Miller (Williams), Carter, Rowland, Mayes, Kamara.

SWANSEA (2) 3 (Curtis, Waddle, Sharpe o.g.)
GILLINGHAM (0) 1 (White pen.) 10,832

Swansea: Crudgington; Evans, Bartley, Phillips, Stevenson, Charles, Attley, James, Curtis, Toshack (Waddle), Callaghan.

Gillingham: Hillyard; Sharpe, Barker, Overton, Weatherley, Crabbe, Nicholl, Hughes, Price, Westwood, White.

TRANMERE (0) 2 (Kerr, Palios)
EXETER (1) 2 (Sims, Roberts) 984

Tranmere: Johnson; Cliff, Mathias, Parry, Bramhall, Evans, Craven, O'Neill, Kerr, Peplow (Palios), McAuley.

Exeter: O'Keefe; Templeman, Hore, Randell, Giles, Roberts, Neville, Pearson, Sims, Delve (Ingham), Hatch.

FOURTH DIVISION

NEWPORT (0) 2 (Goddard pen., Bruton)
NORTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Froggatt) 3,018

Newport: Plumley; Warriner (Vaughan), Relish, Davies, Oakes, Bruton, Bailey, Lowndes, Goddard, Tynan, Moore.

Northampton: Poole; Geidmintis, Bryant, Woollett, Robertson, Saunders (Ashenden), Farrington, Williams, Froggatt, Reilly, McCaffrey.

READING (0) 0
SCUNTHORPE (0) 1 (Keeley) 5,144

Reading: Death; Peters, White, Hetzke, Hicks, Bennett, Earles, Kearney (Sanchez), Kearns, Wanklyn, Lewis.

Scunthorpe: Crawford; O'Donnell, Pilling, Oates, Deere, Czuczman, Grimes, Gibson, Earl (Kilmore), Kavanagh, Keeley.

Postponed: Crewe v Rochdale; Wimbledon v Barnsley.



Forest's Tony Woodcock was on the mark against Southampton in the League Cup Final.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

LEAGUE CUP FINAL

NOTTM FOREST (0) 3 (Birtles 2, Woodcock)
SOUTHAMPTON (1) 2 (Peach, Holmes) 100,000 at Wembley

Nottm F: Shilton; Barrett, Clark, McGovern, Lloyd, Needham, O'Neill, Gemmill, Birtles, Woodcock, Robertson.

Southampton: Gennoe; Golac, Peach, Williams, Nicholl, Waldron, Ball, Boyer, Hayes (Sealy), Holmes, Curran.

FIRST DIVISION

BRISTOL C (0) 1 (Gow)
MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 1 (Armstrong) 12,319

Bristol C: Shaw; Sweeney, Gillies, Gow, Rodgers, Hunter, Tainton, Ritchie, Royle, Mabbutt, Whitehead.

Middlesbrough: Platt; Craggs, Johnson, Mahoney, Boam, McAndrew, Hodgson, Proctor, Ashcroft, Burns, Armstrong.

CHELSEA (1) 1 (Shanks o.g.)
Q.P.R. (1) 3 (Goddard, Roeder, Busby) 25,871

Chelsea: Borota; Wilkins (G), Stride, Bannon, Sitton, Nutton, Docherty (Langley), Wilkins (R), Harris, Stanley, Walker.

Q.P.R.: Richardson; Clement, Gillard, Hollins, Howe, Roeder, Shanks, Francis, Eastoe, Bowles, Goddard (Busby).

COVENTRY (2) 2 (Wallace, Powell pen.)
BOLTON (2) 2 (Worthington, McNab) 15,231

Coventry: Sealey; Coop, McDonald, Yorath, Holton, Hagan, Nardiello, Wallace, Thompson, Powell, Hutchison.

Bolton: McDonagh; Nicholson, Dunne, Greaves (Burke), Jones, Walsh, Morgan, Allardice, Gowing, Worthington, McNab.

IPSWICH (1) 2 (Wark, Rix o.g.)
ARSENAL (0) 0 26,407

Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Mills, Thijsen, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Gates, Woods.

Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Nelson, Talbot, O'Leary, Walford, Brady, Sunderland, Stapleton, Price (Gatting), Rix.

TOTTENHAM 0
NORWICH 0 24,982

Tottenham: Kendall; Naylor, McAllister, Holmes, Lacy, Perryman, Pratt, Ardiles (Taylor), Lee, Hoddle, Villa.

Norwich: Hansbury; Bond, Davies, McGuire, Hoadley, Powell, Neighbour, Reeves, Robson, Evans, Peters (Forbes).

Postponed: Birmingham v WBA; Leeds v Liverpool; Man. C v Villa; Wolves v Derby.

SECOND DIVISION

BRIGHTON (0) 2 (Lawrenson, Ryan)
SHEFF. UTD (0) 0 20,091

Brighton: Steele; Cattlin, Williams, Horton, Rollings, Lawrenson, Ryan, Ward, Maybank, Clark, O'Sullivan (Poskett).

Sheff. Utd: Conroy; Cutbush, Garner (Flood), Kenworthy, McPhail, Guy, Anderson, Speight, Brown, Sabella, Hamson.

CHARLTON (1) 1 (Campbell)
CARDIFF (0) 1 (Buchanan) 5,658

Charlton: Wood; Campbell, Warman, Gritt, Shaw, Madden, Brisley, Hales, Robinson, Tydeman, Peacock.

Cardiff: Healey; Roberts, Sullivan, Campbell, Pontin, Dwyer, Grapes, Bishop (Evans), Stevens, Moore, Buchanan.

ORIENT (0) 3 (Grealish, Mayo, Coates)
CAMBRIDGE (0) 0 4,577

Orient: Jackson; Fisher, Roffey, Grealish, Gray, Went, Chiedozi, Whittle, Mayo, Moores, Coates.

Cambridge: Webster; Graham, Smith, Stringer, Fallon, Cozens, Garner (Buckley), Spriggs, Murray, Finney, Biley.

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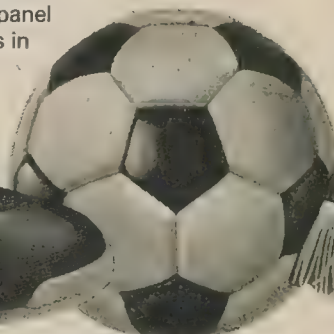
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Jim Smith (third, left), Birmingham City manager in the dug-out with his staff and sub Stewart Barrowclough this season.

SMITH PRAISES BIRMINGHAM'S FANS

BOSTON, Colchester and Blackburn are all clubs Birmingham City boss, Jim Smith, left in a better state than when he joined them.

He faced the same problems at Colchester and Blackburn that he now faces at relegation threatened Birmingham.

Yet, surprisingly, Jim views the present situation at St. Andrews objectively and optimistically. "We think there is a good foundation to build on," he said.

"Birmingham City have always had a large financial debt hanging over their heads, but with the sale of Trevor Francis, that's certainly been cured. We are not in the best shape in the League, but feel we have the best chance for many years of producing the type of club Birmingham City should be. We now have the financial stability to achieve this aim.

'No rush'

"But we must do the job right. We've got to buy sensibly. I'm in no rush to spend."

Birmingham ended a run of nine consecutive defeats in beating Tottenham 1-0 at St. Andrews on February 24th, and picked up their fifth point in four outings with a 3-1 win over Q.P.R., and a 0-0 draw against Coventry. The mini-revival seemed to coincide with the departure of Trevor Francis.

"I don't know why this should be," says Jim. "It had nothing to do with Trevor at all. He's a smashing lad with a great deal to offer. I think several of our players stood

in awe of him and it was their fault, not Trevor's.

"I think they've responded favourably to the fact that he's no longer at Birmingham. They feel that they can express themselves better. It isn't the total answer, but I'm sure that it's one of the reasons.

"The biggest factor is that we've been able to pick the same players for a run four or five matches at a time for the first time this season. We've had a settled side and con-

sequently we've settled into a system."

Smith is naturally pleased with the improved form of midfield man Tony Towers and his Argentinian import, Alberto Tarantini.

"We're delighted to see Tony playing so well again — I've always felt that he was a class player — and now he's showing his true worth.

"Alberto has had good games, bad games, and indifferent games for Birmingham, but has now hit

consistent form. He's developed a tremendous partnership at the back with Joe Gallagher.

"Young 'keeper Neil Freeman is getting better and better. Alan Ainscow is improving with every game. We knew it would take a little time, but he's now showing signs of becoming a very capable performer. Alan Buckley has fitted in well. He's got the goals and he'll get more.

"There's no denying our First Division prospects are gloomy at the moment, but don't let's talk about doom and despondency."

It's certainly been another bad season in the League for Blues, but there have been other successes and Smith did get a boost when Dillon, Rathbone and Broadhurst were called up for the England Under-21 squad. So Birmingham certainly aren't dead yet.

"We've some good young lads who have done well, which is always encouraging," said Smith.

But Blues' boss is not doing a Leicester and pitching youngsters into League action without experi-

'Experience'

"Not as much as that," he says. "We want to gradually introduce our youngsters into a regular combination set-up to give them the right experience, so that when they do come into the first team, they know what they're doing and they know what they're about.

"But I would never be afraid to play them in the senior side if I thought they were good enough."

In all fairness, Blues have been injury plagued: Francis, Howard, Calderwood and Bertschin twice.

"The last Bertschin injury was a real sickener," says Jim. "The fans have kept coming and they've been very, very good to me in particular, for which I'm extremely grateful.

"I won't accept relegation until the last ball has been kicked. All I'm saying is that we know we have a very difficult task ahead. I don't believe that we're whistling in the dark when we say that we still have a chance. And while we still have that chance, then we'll move heaven and earth to achieve it."

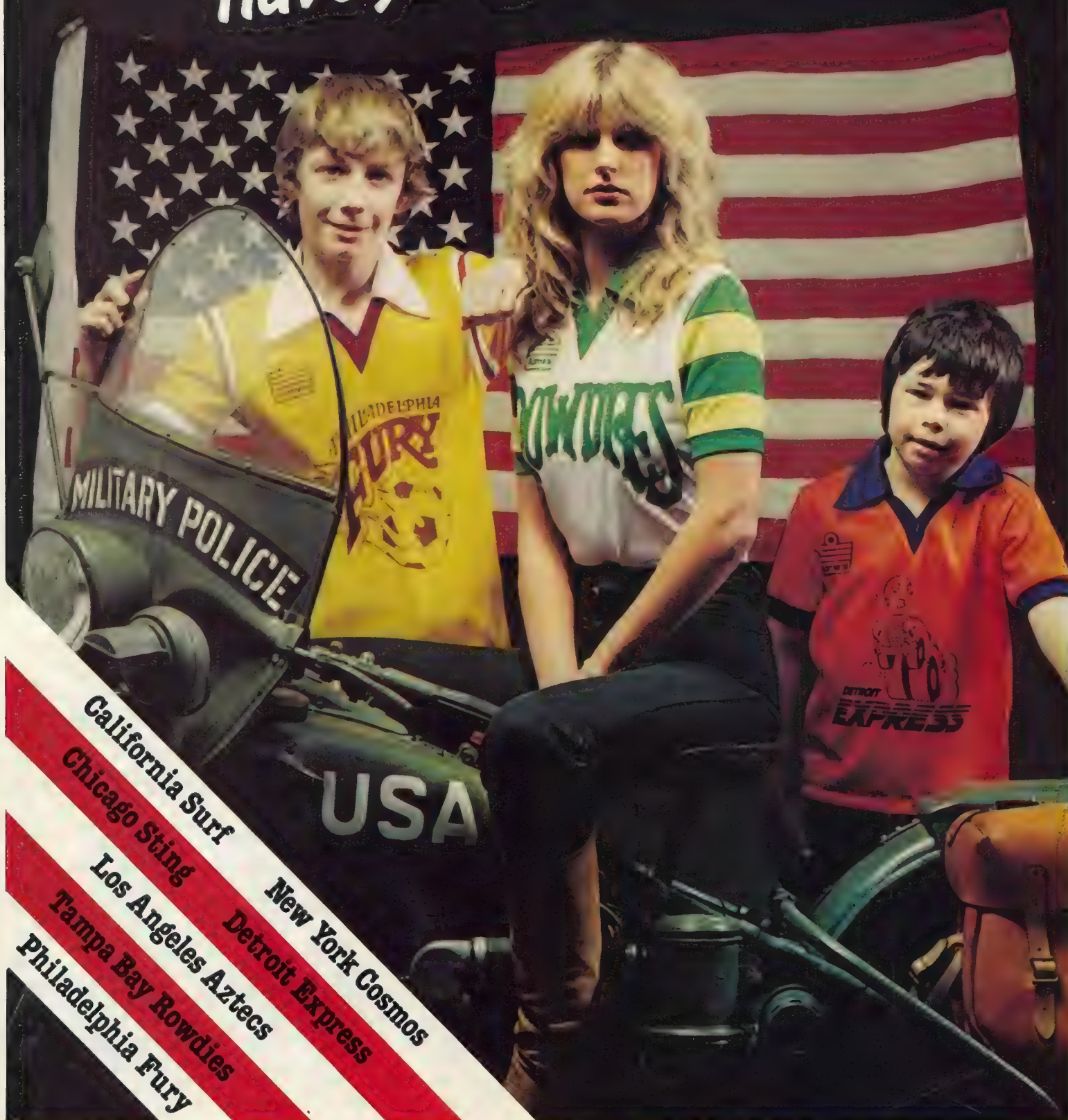


City's Kevin Dillon shoots past Tottenham's defenders during their 1-0 win over the London club.



TRANSATLANTIC SHIRTS

Have you got one?



California Surf

Chicago Sting

Los Angeles

New York Cosmos

Detroit Express

Aztecs

Tampa Bay Rowdies

Philadelphia Fury

FOCUS ON



GARY COLLIER Bristol City

FULL NAME: Gary Collier
BIRTHPLACE: Bristol
BIRTHDATE: 4th February, 1955
HEIGHT: 6ft 1in
WEIGHT: 12st
PREVIOUS CLUBS: None
MARRIED: No
CAR: Volkswagen Golf GLS
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Franz Beckenbauer
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Liverpool
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Kenny Burns, when playing up-front for Birmingham
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Against Portsmouth when we gained promotion
BIGGEST THRILL: Beating Leeds in the F.A. Cup Fifth Round five seasons ago
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Not playing

well in the Portsmouth game
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: America
FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak and chips or omelette
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Driving, animals and travelling abroad
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Cross country running
FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: All comedy and sports programmes
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye and Donna Summer
FAVOURITE ACTORS: Dustin Hoffman and Clint Eastwood
BEST FRIEND: I have many close friends mostly outside the club
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: The coaching staff at the club and the players

I've played with
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Being injured and playing badly
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be happy and contented in my personal life
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To help consolidate our position in the First Division
IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? Don't know
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Dustin Hoffman

Gary Collier

SHOOT!

GED KEEGAN has always liked his football. He reckoned Manchester City were a great club and even when he left them two months ago was still shouting the praises of the Maine Road outfit.

Now, the midfield player is firmly installed at Oldham and the same superlatives are rolling from his lips about his new club.

Keegan rarely complained at City even though he made only 40 first team appearances, but his talents were worthy of a higher grade of football than reserve team duty, and now his patience is paying dividends.

The quiet mannered Keegan had put in some impressive performances for Manchester City in the first half of the season when he was picked by City boss Tony Book and so the player's sudden transfer, to lowly placed Oldham in the Second Division, was assumed by many to be part of the squad pruning to be expected after Malcolm



In letting Keegan go for the low price of £25,000 City recognised that he had been loyal and patient while learning his trade and deserved the opportunity of playing it elsewhere. At Manchester City their abundance of midfield talent would have limited the outings they could have offered the 23-year-old Keegan.

Keegan's best match for City this season was probably against AC Milan in December, in the U.E.F.A. Cup Third Round second-leg at Maine Road. City won 3-0 and produced football of stunning class to eclipse the Italians. Keegan, at right-back then, matched the considerable talent around him.

Oldham manager Jimmy Frizzell regarded Keegan's performance against the Italians as superb. Well satisfied with his new signing, Frizzell went on: "Defensively Ged is very good, but I feel his best position could be in midfield from where he can go forward quickly.

new lease of life. He chatted happily about settling in. "It will take a couple of more games but I'm beginning to get the knack of Oldham's style.

"It's brilliant being in the first team here. They are a happy lot. Now I'm here I mean to do myself and Oldham a bit of good.

"I'd rather play for them even though they are low in the League rather than waste away in reserve football. In any case, in two or three weeks you can move up the Division... there's only about ten points separating us from teams in contention at the top!"

The Keegan deal looks like another astute piece of business by Jimmy Frizzell. In midfield Keegan will have a partnership with the sandy-headed Graham Bell, an all-action player. The link should be worth watching.

In Keegan's case, born in Bradford, he has finally dug his Yorkshire heels in and decided he

KEEGAN - Oldham's New Star

Allison became Book's right hand man early in January.

"Not so," Keegan told us. "I had in fact put in for a move a long time ago. I hung about for eight months or so and then asked for the transfer fee of £50,000 to be cut. Big Mal wasn't involved at all, his coming was purely coincidental. He asked me to leave it for a

few weeks more but I didn't want to stay any longer."

Allison was probably sorry to see Keegan leave so soon after his arrival. He was instrumental in Keegan joining City seven years ago. Allison went to watch his eldest son David play in a match and Keegan was one of the opponents and caught Allison's eye.

"Obviously with only 40 first team games at Maine Road he became a little stifled. He has come to us at a time when it is hard going and we are fighting to get every point, but I know he will respond to the chance to play regularly."

We could see there was no doubt in Keegan's mind about his

wants a bigger part in the business he says he cannot regard as work. "It's brilliant earning a living this way," says the player who loves his football.

With a name like Keegan, people expected Ged to do well. Maybe he won't reach the heights of his namesake, Kevin... but it won't be for lack of effort or enthusiasm.

Leicester's 'Whizz-Kids' - The Talk of the Town

AN injection of youth and that magic ingredient 'goals' are just two reasons for Leicester City's dramatic revival.

"It started on New Year's Day when we beat Oldham," says skipper, Dennis Rofe. "Then we triumphed over Norwich in the Cup. We had a disappointing result against Blackburn because we only drew. But the two matches which had the City buzzing with excitement again came with our 5-3 win against Orient and our 2-1

victory over Newcastle.

"As well as giving the players a little bit of belief in themselves, it's also restored lost pride and maybe convinced the supporters that the club is on the way back.

"You can sense it when you walk along the street. People stop you and say, 'I saw you on Saturday and really enjoyed it.' Things are beginning to happen again.

"There was a time when we simply could not score goals. Now, every time we take the field, we feel that we are going to score and the crowd sense it too.

"We've been a little fortunate because we've had the famous weather beating 'tent'. Everybody's been given a boost because we've been able to play our matches and to string a few good results together. It's also been nice to know that after a week's training we've been virtually certain of playing on the Saturday. You put that little extra into it and you prepare yourself properly."

The talk of the town has been the Leicester whizz-kids. Just how much of a contribution have they made? "You can't speak too highly of them," says Rofe. "They appeared on the scene when we were going through a difficult

patch. Gradually in their ones and twos they've come into the side and things are beginning to take shape now.

"They've performed particularly well in all departments really. The two who are getting all the publicity, Peake and Buchanan, are only two of six or seven teenagers who are doing a great job.

"There's experience and youth blending together with about four players who are just above the mid-twenties. It's a completely new team and totally unrecognisable from the one of 18 months ago.

"Team boss Jock Wallace is calling us old at mid-twenty. I read in a paper one Sunday about the veteran Steve Whitworth, who has since transferred to Sunderland. If he's a veteran at 27, then I must be a pensioner at 28!"

Has Jock Wallace lived up to expectations? "I think so, yes. But on his own admission, he's still got a long way to go and so have we. Slowly but surely he's getting people on his side and has made a good reputation for himself in the short time that he's been here. In the end he'll win everybody over — he has that sort of infectious personality.

"He's laid out around £165,000 on new players, but he's more than doubled that with his sales. So he's well into the black with his balance sheet.

"As I said earlier, one of our problems has been the failure to score goals. After our 5-3 win over Orient we all sat in the dressing room just wondering when we last knocked in five. But the most pleasing factor about that result was the way the youngsters showed their character and spirit in fighting back after being a goal down inside a minute. It usually goes the other way when you've got so many young players in the side.

"Orient made it a great game by playing their part and scoring three. It was also a treat for the paying public of Leicester, because in all honesty, they haven't had much to shout about lately.

"It's too late for anything to materialise this season, but having said that, strange things do happen. We're probably using this season as a springboard for the future.

"We've built an excellent team spirit and the outlook is bright. Like the weather forecast, the fog shrouding Filbert Street is at long last beginning to clear."



Dennis Rofe

Sealy's 'shuffle' from Saints to Selhurst Park



-one of this season's heat the clock transfer deals

THE world of professional footballer Tony Sealy has turned full circle in the space of a few dizzy weeks.

The 19-year-old striker was placed on the transfer list at Southampton, given the invisible "unwanted" tag players fear, and the experience bruised his pride.

That happened early last month. On March 16 the Newcastle-born player was hauled from despair and the semi-obscurity of reserve team football to make an appearance as sub in the closing stages of the League Cup Final against Nottingham Forest at Wembley.

The fresh-faced Sealy could not disguise his delight when he bounced on to the famous turf to replace Austin Hayes even though Southampton's chances of victory had disappeared.

Thirteen days later he was packing his bags at The Dell after signing for Crystal Palace in a £50,000 deal.

Sealy's "now you see me, now you don't" shuffle from the South Coast up the M3 to Selhurst Park was typical of the brisk business managers accomplished on March 29—the deadline-day for transfers.

Activity

The "red letter" day had been postponed because of the Big Freeze but the delay did nothing to dampen the frenzied activity of players changing clubs.

When the deadline expired at 5.0 p.m., dealings to the value of almost £20 million had been completed during the season.

Big spenders Everton brought their spending in the past year to £1,215,000 when they signed Brian Kidd from Manchester City for £150,000 and swapped Micky Walsh for Peter Eastoe, the 25-year-old Q.P.R. striker.

Barry Silkman signed for Manchester City after two months of negotiations with Plymouth. Tony Book finally splashed out £65,000, almost £40,000 less than Plymouth had originally requested.

Lawrie McMenemy, Sealy's former boss, recouped half of the £400,000 he paid Derby for Charlie George in selling Sealy, winger Terry Curran to Sheffield Wednesday for £100,000, and Tony Funnell to Gillingham for £50,000.

Bristol City dived into Europe to poach Dutchman Geert Meijer and Finn Pertti Jantunen. Meijer cost £95,000 but had repaid a sizeable chunk of that figure by scoring on his first appearance.

Not so lucky were Stoke manager Alan Durban and Sunderland boss Billy Elliott, who emerged from making long distance 'phone calls for new players empty handed.

Some you win, some you don't

— but Tony Sealy knew he had chosen right in signing for Second Division Championship chasers Crystal Palace.

"It might sound strange, but one of my big fears was I wouldn't get on with the players at Palace as

well as I had at Southampton. My fears were groundless. I knew that the moment I arrived.

"Paul Hinshelwood has fixed me up with digs in his house and they're a great bunch of lads at Selhurst Park."

Sealy does not blame Southampton's manager Lawrie McMenemy for placing him on the transfer list. He feels his old boss has opened up new avenues for him to explore in his quest for regular first team football.

"Mr McMenemy was very kind. On the day I left, he took me to one side and said 'You can do it. I have not let you go because you are not a good player. I have released you to give you a better chance of first team football'. It was straight, honest, and acceptable."

If McMenemy's parting words were impressive, so was the welcome by Venables.

'Settle'

"He told me he didn't want me to rush things. He wanted me to have time to settle into the club. That helped me a lot."

Sealy made his debut in Palace's 2-0 defeat of Cardiff and now hopes to play a major part in the club's fight to secure promotion to the First Division.

Sealy has no doubts they will achieve that objective.

"Everything about this club is geared for success, the manager, the coaching staff, the ground — the pitch is bigger than Southampton's — and the administration."

Sealy cannot wait to score his first goal — and ring it in red in his book of personal performances.

"I've logged every goal I've ever scored," admits Sealy, whose tally in his last 90 games at all levels is 223.

He has been an habitual goal-scorer since the days he turned out for Wallend Boys Club in New-castle. He once scored ten goals for them in a game they won 20-0.

His striking powers were so impressive Southampton's scout in the North-East, Jack Hixon, recommended him to McMenemy just over three years ago.

Sealy has two immediate ambitions: to help Palace gain promotion — and pass his driving test on May 4.

He has suffered through 40 lessons and still not lost his "L" plates after taking two tests.

There are few who would deny him that little stroke of luck necessary to make it third time lucky.



Last-minute transfer deals:

PETER EASTOE Q.P.R. to Everton £280,000*
MICK WALSH Everton to Q.P.R. £280,000*
BRIAN KIDD Man. City to Everton £150,000
LES TIBBOTT Ipswich to Sheff. Utd. £100,000
TERRY CURRAN So'ton to Sheff. Wed. £100,000
GEERT MEIJER Ajax to Bristol C. £95,000
DAVE SYRETT Mansfield to Walsall £75,000
MARK MCGHEE Newcastle to Aberdeen £70,000

BARRY SILKMAN Plymouth to Man. City £65,000
PERTTI JANTUNEN Eskituna to Bristol C. £55,000

TONY SEALY So'ton to C. Palace £50,000
TONY FUNNELL So'ton to Gillingham £50,000
TADEUSZ NOWAK Legia Warsaw to Bolton £50,000

TOM CUNNINGHAM Q.P.R. to Wimbledon £40,000
TERRY AUSTIN Walsall to Mansfield £30,000

UNDER £30,000

RUSSELL COUGHLIN Man City to Blackburn
DEAN PIPER Man. City to Cardiff
GREG SHEPHERD Man. City to Norwich
PETER ROGERS Bath to Exeter
FRANCIS MCGRELLIS Coventry to Hereford
VALMORE THOMAS Coventry to Hereford
PETER SCOTT York to Aldershot
PAUL BOWETT Spurs to Wimbledon
DAVE LATCHFORD Motherwell to Bury

LOAN TRANSFERS

GRAHAM HEADLEY M'boro to Darlington
PAUL MATTHEWS Rotherham to N'hampton
MARK GREW W.B.A. to Notts Co.

NOT UNDER PREVIOUS CONTRACT

GORDON SOUTER to Shrewsbury
ALAN BIRCH to Luton
TONY BOOTH to Charlton

*Valuations in swap deal.

**DANNY
McGRAIN**



Derek Frye of Dundee United (right) beats Jackie Campbell of Partick to a cross but his effort went past the post.



'FOREST AND DUNDEE UTD. COULD BE CHAMPIONS'

WHATEVER else you want to call the game played both in the Scottish Premier Division and the European Cup this season, one thing is sure — it is not Monopoly.

Gone, temporarily at least, are the days when the victors of the European Cup was a foregone conclusion and the Scottish League Championship was won before Easter.

The giants who ruled Europe, Real Madrid, Ajax and Bayern Munich are shadows of their former selves and now the path to Europe glory is wide open for every club, no matter how restricted their present fame.

Even Liverpool were unable to win the Cup three years on the trot and I have my doubts if that will ever be done again in the foreseeable future. Indeed, even if Forest win the trophy this time, I wouldn't put a brass farthing on them retaining it, fine team though they are.

For example, if Liverpool qualify next year as expected, I would back them against Brian Clough's men.

As it is though, I am backing Forest to take Cologne — an impressive team — over the two legs of this year's Semi and go on to victory and become the fourth British team to win the most coveted prize in club football.

In Scotland, too, the introduction of the Premier Division has put a halt to any side running away with things and this term's charge for the Championship is just a little reminiscent of the Grand National.

As I write Dundee United are the leaders but there is a whole pack just waiting for them to take a tumble at the next fence.

I have to admit though United get more and more like potential Champions by the minute with the important thing being they have the points in the bag unlike so many clubs who still have the games in hand.

And as time goes on, the Taysiders seem to be realising the title is indeed within their grasp and they are talented enough to win the sprint down the home straight.

Confidence is something they have lacked, but a close look at the

table should be enough to give Jim McLean's men plenty of that vital football asset.

On top of that their last gasp victory at the end of March against Motherwell showed that luck was on their side ... and you won't win anything without the big L.

And what of our good selves — Celtic? Well, whatever else, I can assure you our challenge would have been healthier if we had played Rangers two days after they played Cologne when our Hampden date was postponed despite the pitch being declared playable.

We were left without a game as Rangers played a Glasgow Cup-tie against Partick Thistle at Ibrox and the whole affair brought angry statements from our chairman, Mr. Desmond White.

The thing seemed farcical to me ... but without getting involved in political discussions let me say that win, lose or draw it would have been good to get that fixture out of the way because at that stage Celtic had more games left to play than any other side in the

Premier Division.

And had we beaten Rangers that day we really were back in there with a big say in the title race.

As it is we can still become Champions ... but that whole affair did not do a thing for our chances.

Another point I am not overjoyed about is the emphasis put on all - ticket matches. Because of postponements Celtic fans were holding briefs for four matches ... and holding them for some length of time at that.

I too had these tickets and found out what a problem it can be when my kids got them and managed to lose some of them.

The point is too many games are rated all ticket these days. Our administrators must realise there is a declining demand to see the football and consequently we must do all we can to encourage people to come to watch.

We don't do ourselves any favours by insisting supporters must go to the bother of collecting their briefs before matches.

The League Cup Final was a case in point. The police wanted the Hampden crowd for the Rangers v. Aberdeen Final restricted to 80,000 and it was made all-ticket.

But who, in all honesty expected that kind of crowd to turn up and who was surprised when only 50,000 did?

Tickets were still available on the morning of the Final so what was the difference if fans had paid

cash at the turnstiles?

Don't get me wrong, all-ticket matches still have their part to play. Can you imagine for example, about one million people — nearly all Scots — outside Wembley waiting to pay cash to see England play Scotland?

But let's not go berserk. I have heard of ticket fever ... but don't turn it into a disease.

See you in two weeks ...

Danny McGrain

**NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN
TALK BY RANGERS'
DEREK JOHNSTONE**

EVERY team has one. A player who goes about his job quietly and steadily, rarely stepping into the limelight yet still forming the backbone of his team.

He's the one the fans usually just accept as a good team man, an unselfish player who consistently performs well while his mates get the headlines, the glory and the applause.

This week SHOOT turns the spotlight on some of the Scots who are the unsung heroes, the players who now get the opportunity to hog the spotlight for a change.

COLIN JACKSON became Rangers' longest-serving player when John Greig took over as manager during the pre-season. Centre-half Jackson has been at Ibrox for 14 years and has been a key player in their recent successes.

Remember, he was the star when he scored the winning goal for Rangers against Aberdeen in the recent League Cup Final.

However, the man they call "Bomber" at Ibrox thought his career was coming to a rapid end this season when he read a newspaper report that stated Derek Johnstone would be starting the term in the number five shirt.

"Yes, it was a bit of a shock," admits Jackson, who was one of the side's most consistent players as they won the treble last season. "I had heard quite a lot about Derek wanting to play in defence and it looked as though he was going to get his wish.

"I've had setbacks before and managed to come fighting back. I was really disappointed back in '72 when Rangers got to the Final of the European Cup-Winners' Cup and I was set to play against Moscow Dynamo in Barcelona.

"Then I injured a leg in training during a tackle with Davie Smith and I had to be ruled out. Ironically, big Derek took my place during that game and helped the club to a 3-2 victory.

"Of course I was disappointed to have missed such an important match, but I still came back to win international caps. I'm not a quitter."

Jackson eventually got back into the Ibrox team with Johnstone moving up to the firing line. The tall, commanding figure of Jackson is a rock in the middle of the Scottish Champions' rearguard and although he may be on the wrong side of 30 it is difficult to see him giving up the game within the next couple of seasons.

Across at Parkhead RODDIE MACDONALD is the Celtic centre-half who took over from the legendary Billy McNeill, now his boss, of course.

It wasn't easy for MacDonald, a no-nonsense Highlander, to make the fans forget all about McNeill, but slowly and surely he has become one of the most consistent players although the Parkhead men are hardly enjoying the best of fortune at the moment.

MacDonald had his best season for the club two years ago when he

played beside the experienced Pat Stanton, now assistant boss to Alex Ferguson at Aberdeen.

Veteran Stanton formed an effective double-act in the middle of Celtic's back-four with MacDonald, but the recent unsettling time at Parkhead hasn't aided the player.

Johannes Edvaldsson, Roy Aitken, Jim Casey and others have been played in the recognised sweeper position alongside MacDonald, but so far there hasn't been a consistently happy partnership.

JOE WARK, the Motherwell left-back, captain and inspiration, has given remarkable loyalty to the club during their recent testing times.

The player simply goes out and gives his all for the club. He is a resolute, 100 per cent defender who likes to add his weight to the attack with adventurous runs up

the flank.

"He's a model professional" — these are the words of praise you constantly hear about the player. He may not be the most subtle in the world, but what he might lack in finesse he certainly makes up for in fitness and leadership qualities.

Motherwell are going through a bad spell at the moment, but Wark hasn't been complaining. It's business as usual so far as he is concerned!

When you mention Dundee United the critics immediately start talking about youngsters such as Paul Hegarty, David Narey, Raymond Stewart, Paul Sturrock and Graeme Payne, but to have so many young players in a team you must also have a balance with experienced men to guide them.

HAMISH McALPINE, the goalkeeper and former skipper, and GEORGE FLEMING, the industrious, versatile player, are the old

heads in the Tannadice line-up.

Manager Jim McLean has praised both men long, loud and often, but they still miss most of the plaudits.

McAlpine, who is also a former penalty-kick taker of the club, is undoubtedly one of the best 'keepers in the Premier Division and has been one of the most consistent over the past four years.

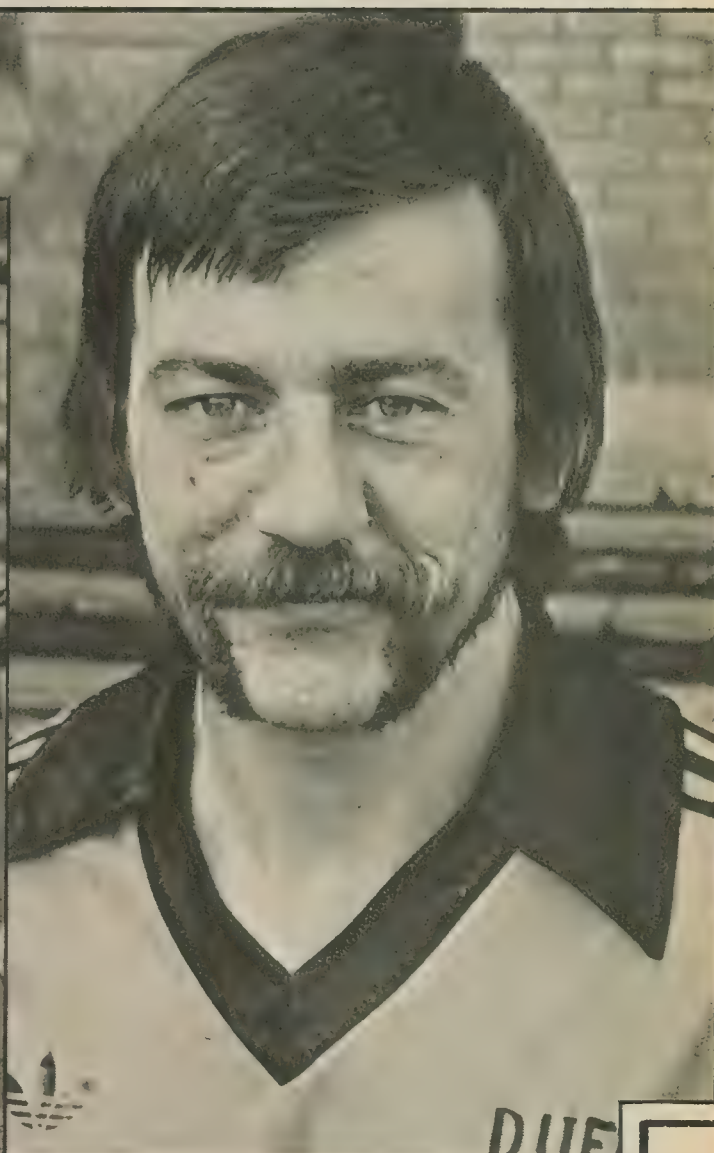
Amazingly, international honours have always by-passed him despite the fact Scotland have hardly been healthy in this department in recent years.

Fleming, bought from Hearts for a modest fee when most people thought his best days were over, has taken on a new lease of life at Tannadice and he is in the hustle and bustle mould of someone such as Alan Ball or former Scottish international captain Billy Bremner.

He works tirelessly throughout a

UNSUNG

Roddy MacDonald (below) is having a consistent season for Celtic despite the Parkhead troubles. George Fleming (right) an industrious player for Dundee United.



game, setting up attacks and breaking down the opposition. He doesn't score a barrowload of goals, but his timing is good and normally when he gets his name on the scoresheet it is at a vital time.

ANDY ANDERSON, of Partick Thistle, was once rated as one of the best prospects in Scottish soccer, but somehow the path to fame and fortune has not been an easy one for him to find.

Yet the player has given the Firhill side marvellous service and he is still only 25! He plays with the authority of a veteran and it was a sad day when he walked out on the club and said he was finished with football three seasons ago.

Thankfully, he had a change of heart, returned and has been one of Scotland's most impressive central defenders. He use of the ball is superb and Bertie Auld can be thankful that the transfer spotlight



barrier alongside Neil Orr, Davie Hayes and Jimmy Holmes in the Morton back-four and it is difficult to believe he is still only 26. He has been starring for his club for almost a decade and there are no indications his great service is about to dry up. Lucky Morton!

ALEX BECKETT and **IAIN MUNRO** are two more players who don't grab the bulk of the Press reports at St. Mirren, but Love Street manager Jim Clunie is quick to praise them. "Two thorough players," says Clunie. "Men any club would be proud to possess and I'm happy to have them at St. Mirren."

Another defender in the Premier who hasn't been promoted to superstar status is Aberdeen's **CHIC McLELLAND**. It looked as though his Aberdeen career was on the rocks when Billy McNeill, now the Celtic boss, paid out £18,000 to Hereford for Stevie

Ritchie.

He took over the number three shirt and McLelland dropped into obscurity. Ritchie, in fact, scored the only Aberdeen goal in their 2-1 defeat from Rangers in the Scottish Cup Final last May.

Then he was hit by injury. Alex Ferguson moved into the Pittodrie hot seat and McLelland came back again. The player showed up so well Ferguson handed Ritchie a free transfer when he came back to peak fitness, but couldn't dislodge McLelland.

Professionalism

These, then, are just some of the players who are cloaked in anonymity as their better known team-mates get the bulk of the praise and the credit.

Such is their professionalism that they refuse to grumble or moan about it being unfair. They get on with the game, get solidly behind their teams and battle their way through an industrious 90 minutes. Their true worth is proved when they are not there. Then they really are missed ... then the fans realise just how much a certain individual adds to their team.

The unsung heroes can take a bow this week!

HEROES

that hovers around Firhill rarely falls on one of his most consistent players.

ARTHUR DUNCAN, of Hibs, might have thought his manager Eddie Turnbull was joking this season when he was told he was changing his position from out-side-left to right-back!

It's a startling change of soccer roles, but Duncan says logically: "It's up to the manager to tell me where I play. If he thinks I can do a job in the full-back's role then it is up to me to try to prove him right."

Duncan has, in fact, proved to be a revelation in his new role. His speed on the overlap is now one of Hibs' main weapons and although he will never win any prizes for his ability in the air, there aren't many wingers who can enjoy facing the former international star these days.

Across at Tynecastle **DREW BUSBY** is still playing a major part for Hearts. Like Duncan he has had a change in roles. He has been taken out of the firing line and is now operating more in the middle of the park, but he is still collecting his fair share of goals.

An illustration of his courage came in the Scottish Cup replay match against Morton at Cappielow this season. Busby had been injured and it was touch and go just before the match whether or not he would play.

He convinced manager Willie Ormond that he could last the full 90 minutes and he went on to score the only goal of the game with a bullet-like header.

A man who was in direct combat with Busby that night was Morton's **GEORGE ANDERSON**, another steady, reliable player who goes out week in, week out to give his all for the Cappielow club.

Anderson forms a considerable



Hibs' Arthur Duncan (top of page) has successfully switched from the wing to full-back. Partick Thistle's Andy Anderson (above) has not had an easy ride to the top. Despite a fine season at St. Mirren, Iain Munro has still missed the headlines.



TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

Quiz Time

1. Can you name the three players who were sent-off during the Crystal Palace and Cardiff City Second Division game at Selhurst Park at the end of March?

2. Mickey Walsh, a transfer deadline signing from Everton, took 26, 36 or 46 minutes to score for Queens Park Rangers on his debut against Derby County at Loftus Road?

3. Can you identify the two First Division managers enjoying a light-hearted game of football?



4. Fourth Division Rochdale recorded only their second, third or fourth home League win of the season when they beat Bournemouth 2-1 at Spotland?

5. Which two clubs would be playing against each other if the 1977-78 Scottish Cup runners-up entertained the Football League Cup holders of the same season?

6. Which Arsenal defender scored an own-goal and then made amends by scoring an equaliser against Coventry City at Highbury?

7. Did Tony Hazell of Crystal Palace or West Ham's Tommy Taylor win the recent London Professional Footballers' Golf Championship?

8. Rearrange the jumbled letters to find the name of a First Division goalscorer and his club... YRC-LELI IRSGE (SWTE MBHWORCI).

9. The red and yellow card system was first introduced by Football League referees in October, 1974, 1975 or 1976?

10. Wolves, battling hard to stay in the First Division, did their chances a lot of good when they beat Spurs 3-2 at Molineux. Was the winning goal, in the dying seconds, scored by John Richards, Ken Hibbitt (below) or Steve Daley?



11. Who guided Lincoln City as manager to the 1975-76 Fourth Division Championship?

12. True or false — Alan Whittle has returned from playing abroad to star for Orient?

13. Tony Fitzpatrick is having a fine season with which Scottish Premier Division club?

14. Rangers drew 0-0, 1-1 or 2-2 with Partick Thistle in the first Scottish Cup Semi-Final at Hampden Park?

15. Still with the Scottish Champions. They beat Aberdeen 2-1 to clinch the League Cup recently... who scored their winner in the dying seconds?

16. Arsenal and Wolves clashed at Villa Park. The Gunners won 2-0... who scored their goals?

17. What was the half-time score?

18. In the other Semi, Liverpool and Manchester United (below, dark shorts), fought a classic 2-2 draw. Where was the game played?

19. Who missed a penalty in the game?

20. Liverpool wore what colour strip for the first time?

21. Who scored Manchester United's winning goal in their 1-0 victory in the replay at Goodison Park?

F.A. CUP

The Semi-Finals of the F.A. Cup were played recently. Can you answer the following questions about the games?



ANSWERS:

1. Crystal Palace's Dave Swindon and Phil Dwyer. 2. 36. 3. West Brom's Ron Atkinson (left) and Gordon Lee of Everton. 4. Fourth Division. 5. Nottingham Forest. 6. Sammy Nelson. 7. Hazell. 8. Cyllie Regis (West Bromwich). 9. 1976. 10. Hibbitt. 11. Graham Taylor, now boss of Watford. 12. True. 13. St. Mirren. 14. 0-0. 15. Colin Jackson. 16. Frank Stapleton and Alan Sunderland. 17. 0-0. 18. Maine Road, Manchester. 19. Liverpool's Terry McDermott. 20. Yellow. 21. Jimmy Greenhoff.

GO FOR THE DOUBLE ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (2) Walsall. (8) Over. (10) East. (12) Adapt. (13) Resign. (15) Like. (17) Aim. (18) Queen's Park. (21) Uses. (22) Rep. (24) Gregory. (25) So. (28) Ire. (29) Tannadice. (32) Tony. (33) Din.
DOWN:— (1) Do. (2) We. (3) Ardiles. (4) Shanks. (5) Leap. (6) Lep. (7) St. (9) Vue. (11) Striker. (13) Request. (14) Gin. (16) Epps. (17) Arrowed. (19) Us. (20) Eel. (23) Pylon. (24) Gray. (25) Red. (27) Dat. (28) Inn. (30) No. (31) In.
Jumbled Name: ARNOLD MUHREN.

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WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LOSE ONE STEP AWAY FROM WEMBLEY...

STEVE Daley buried his face in his gold shirt and wiped away the tears; Kenny Hibbitt delayed the onflow of emotions for just long enough to persuade the rest of the Wolves' players to salute their massive following; John Barnwell kept his head high and wrapped a consoling arm around the sagging shoulders of George Berry.

But even the stiffest upper lip dissolved the moment the Wolves' players reached the private retreat that was their Villa Park dressing-room. While Arsenal loudly celebrated their F.A. Cup Semi-Final triumph, the Wolves were experiencing what most footballers commonly agree is the most sickening, heart-breaking, gut-wrenching disappointment in the game — the loss of a Semi-Final.

Four members of the team, beaten 2-0 by Arsenal on March 31st, were going through the numbness for the second time in six years. John Richards, John McAlle, Derek Parkin and Kenny Hibbitt were part of the Wolves' team beaten 1-0 by Leeds United at Maine Road in the 1973 Semi-Finals.

And as current captain Hibbitt explained afterwards: "It's worse this time, despite knowing in advance how defeat can affect you. Because in 1973 we were genuinely unlucky. We played well, created chances and stretched Leeds to their limit.

'Haunt us'

"But against Arsenal we never got going at all. The whole game just passed us by. And that is very difficult to live with. It will haunt us all for years to come.

"I take nothing away from Arsenal who played better than us and deserved their win. But it would be more bearable if we could look back and say we played to our best ability and were not good enough on the day. As it stands we only know we started playing the way we can when we were two goals down and it was too, too late.

"Most of all we feel for our fans. They created all the atmosphere at Villa Park and they could not have given us a better boost."

George Berry, of the bushy afro-hairstyle and rapidly emerging talent, managed to acquire a decade of maturity when confronted by after-match questions. "I made a mistake and Alan Sunderland punished me for it. That's what football is all about," he said. "We were in tremendous form up to the Semi-Finals and we lost only three games out of 18. But despite being level at half-time, we seemed below key as a team."

As Dave Sexton and Bob Paisley were mopping their brows and preparing for a titanic replay at Goodison Park after their 2-2 draw at Maine Road in the other Semi-Final, John Barnwell coolly strolled into the Villa Park reception room and gave the Press probably more than they've ever received from a losing Semi-Final manager before.

Barnwell sipped a drink and said: "We didn't play. It passed us by as a team. Arsenal set their stall out for a



Wolves manager John Barnwell (left) consoles Steve Daley after losing 2-0 to Arsenal at Villa Park.

draw in the first-half, then realised we were not producing the threat they anticipated.

"There is a skill in winning important games and in winning trophies. We have not got that skill yet. I told the lads in the dressing-room the pattern of play that was good enough to get us here was good enough for the day.

"The best test of the best metal is the highest temperature. I had never

seen my team in a cauldron before. What I saw will stay close to my chest. But I learned a lot. Yet nothing eases the pain of losing a Semi-Final. But so far nobody has died from it."

Four days later, the scenes were repeated in a Liverpool dressing-room totally stunned at the reality that the coveted League and F.A. Cup 'double' had been dashed from the lips of the players by Manchester United.

Doubly bitter was the pill that Liverpool had to swallow when Jimmy Greenhoff, the man whose goal won the Cup for United in 1977 ended Liverpool hopes of a fabulous 'treble'. For it was the ageless Greenhoff who headed United back to Wembley for the third time in four years.

Liverpool manager Bob Paisley, so accustomed to success, found it difficult to represent the emotions of his players. But he was annoyed enough to comment: "We controlled the second-half but we were careless. And we paid the penalty. I thought there must have been a bomb in our penalty-area judging by the way our defenders evacuated it, leaving Greenhoff to score.

"We'll get over this disappointment. We must. We have the League Championship to go for."

But behind the brave words were etched the lines of disappointment on the faces of men like Phil Neal who gave a fine individual performance; Ray Clemence whose marvellous saves were not enough; Ray Kennedy, whose header cannoned back to him off United's crossbar.

Bill Shankly once summoned up natural winners when he said: "I hear people saying you should never be a bad loser. That's rubbish. I love bad losers. They are the best players to have." Hardly surprising, then, Shankly had a special affection for Clemence.

England's number one goalkeeper looked dejected as he emerged from the dressing-room with his kit-bag, and when approached for an interview said: "I'm sorry, not tonight. I'm not that big I can be objective at a time like this."

Phil Neal summed it up for the rest when he said: "We are all sick, but the title is now our target, and that's the most important honour of the lot."

Ray Kennedy looked disconsolate. He said: "It's at times like this you need to have your family around you. It really brings you down to earth.

"But we will be back very quickly. Our philosophy is we always take one game at a time. And the next game is the most important. That is the best way of approaching football."

Liverpool only had Stanley Park to negotiate en route back to Anfield, a mere matter of yards from Goodison Park. But when you've just lost an F.A. Cup Semi-Final, a yard is a long, uphill mile.



Joe Jordan (right) turns away in triumph after scoring for Man. Utd. against Liverpool.



Manchester City's Paul Power in a duel with Norwich's goalkeeper Kevin Keelan, while Canaries midfielder player John Ryan closes in.

SHOOT!